GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR AND ORISSA

REPORT

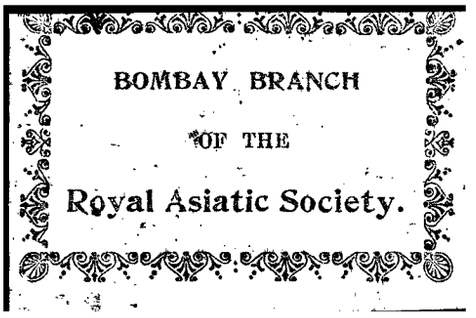
ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BIHAR AND ORISSA

DURING

1919-1920

00133061



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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF

BIHAR AND ORISSA

133061

1919-1920

Patna

SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRINTING, BIHAR AND ORISSA

1921

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PART I.

INTRODUCTORY CHAPTER.

SHORT SUMMARY

ON THE

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF BIHAR AND ORISSA, 1919-1920

from 1st April 1919 to 31st March 1920.

General Events.

THE disturbances in the Punjab and the passive resistance campaign resulted in an atmosphere of tension during the early months of the hot weather. Wild rumours were circulated as to what was happening in the Punjab. The leaders of extreme political opinion made attempts to foster the passive resistance movements, supported by their organ of the local press. Three or four extremists took the oath of passive resistance. They held solemn processions and public prayers and secured the closing of a number of shops in Patna and some other larger towns. The rural population took very little interest in the campaign.

The imminence of the approaching constitutional reforms awakened an interest in political questions among classes hitherto but little influenced by such ideas. The recommendations of the Government of India on the Reforms were criticized in a hostile spirit by the local press, the more advanced section of which also bitterly attacked the Indemnity Bill.

Outside events failed to arouse much interest in the general population. The news of the unprovoked aggression of the Amir of Afghanistan was received with indifference. The Turkish question was discussed but was not the occasion for any general manifestation of interest and "Caliphate day" was not extensively observed. Peace celebrations were carried out successfully in the principal towns.

Although vigorous steps had been taken last year to suppress the outbreak of dacoities which took place in the district of Manbhum, this form of crime continued to be very prevalent. Towards the close of the year to cope more effectively with the situation, an increased police force including a large addition to the investigating staff was drafted into the district additional police station established, and armed police employed in hunting down the offenders. These steps effectively checked the outbreak.

Crime generally was more prevalent than usual, but not more so than the adverse economic conditions naturally occasioned. A prolonged strike occurred in the East Indian Railway workshops at Jamalpur in December which was however peaceably adjusted. A more serious strike resulting in open violence occurred in March at the Tata Iron and Steel Works at Jamshedpur. Although the call for recruits had ceased to be of paramount importance and the recruiting staff had been considerably reduced, more than three thousand four hundred combatants were enlisted during the nine months and the supply of labourers for labour corps exceeded four thousand five hundred.

Legislation.

In many districts of Chota Nagpur and South Bihar the condition of the lowest classes of agricultural labourers is practically indistinguishable from that of hereditary bondsmen. They contract to render service in return for a loan, and, as repayment of the loan is very difficult, they practically become predial serfs. In order to break down this system known as "kamiauti," the Bihar and Orissa Kamiauti Agreements' Bill was drafted and was passed by the local Legislative Council after the close of the year. The amendment of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act of 1908 was taken up in a comprehensive Bill which was passed by the local Legislative Council in March 1920. Bills dealing with the water supply for the Jharia coal fields, Municipal surveys, control and sanitation of places of pilgrimage and medical officers of health in municipalities also became law in the course of the year.

Administration.

Owing to the temporary transfer of many officers to the army and the stoppage of recruitment, most of the services worked throughout the past four years with very inadequate staff. Schemes for the reorganization of the services which had been recommended by the Public Services Commission were of necessity held up until after the war. Substantial progress was made in the course of the year in improving the conditions of service and in reorganization.

Public Health.

Except for the first two months when mortality was high on account of influenza, the health of the province was generally fair, but there was an epidemic of cholera in the districts of Puri and Cuttack in the Orissa Division. The death-rate for the whole province was 40 per mille compared to 56·7 for the previous year, but the birth-rate also fell from 37·5 to about 30, no doubt on account of the scarcity conditions that prevailed throughout 1919 and the ravages of influenza from which cause it is estimated that six hundred thousand persons died in 1918 and 1919. There is at present no organization to look after the sanitation of villages and rural areas, and the occasional deputation of temporary doctors and compounders is inadequate to stay the ravages of epidemic disease. An experiment in rural sanitation is about to be made in a limited area of about 400 square miles with a view to ascertain what systematic improvements can be effected under the existing conditions by means which will not be beyond the resources of local bodies.

A Leper Asylum with accommodation for 240 patients was opened at Cuttack in November and the Leper Act was extended to all the districts of the Orissa Division and to most of the Feudatory States.

Economic conditions.

Owing to the short and irregular monsoon of 1918, there was a severe failure of the autumn and winter crops and in consequence almost all necessaries of life rose to prices hitherto unprecedented, and distress prevailed to a greater or less degree throughout the year. The price of rice which is the principal crop rose steadily from eight and a half seers for a rupee in October 1918; until by the 1st July of this year the rupee purchased little more than five seers, and the price had not fallen below seven seers for a rupee by the end of the year, in spite of a most favourable monsoon. The people showed much greater power of resistance than in former times of scarcity. The failure of the crops was unprecedentedly severe and widespread and yet it was not found necessary to initiate famine operations over any large area or on an extensive scale. In only three districts was famine declared

and operations were closed by the 1st of December. In a small area in Puri district, which had suffered from local floods, relief was resumed in March 1920. The direct expenditure on famine relief amounted to seven lakhs seventy-six thousand rupees, but in addition to this about thirty-six lakhs were distributed under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Act. Considerable sums were spent by way of private charity, and a provincial Famine Charitable Relief Fund was formed from which grants of about Rs. 50,000 were made to supplement the resources of local charity.

Emigration from the Chota Nagpur districts to Assam and elsewhere largely solved the problem of providing work for the aboriginal population who have in past periods of scarcity suffered severely. Most of the expenditure incurred was by way of gratuitous relief to persons unable to work whose numbers were swollen by the orphans left by the ravages of influenza in the previous autumn.

The difficulty of dealing with the situation was enhanced by the widespread failure of crops throughout India and the shortage of railway transport. The provincial Director of Civil Supplies watched the needs of the districts and distributed to them the allotments which the Foodstuffs Commissioner allowed to be imported and indicated the parts of the province from which foodstuffs could be exported. Yet, for several months, even with the help of liberal imports of Burma rice, the supply barely met the demand: stocks were gravely depleted before the autumn harvests came in, and the good monsoon of 1919 averted a very serious catastrophe.

Agriculture.

A year of famine of necessity forces attention to the need of improved agricultural methods and the possibility of increased returns from the land. There is a large field for improvement in the efficiency of the methods and of the implements employed in agriculture and particularly for better yielding strains of crops, all of which would result in much greater returns from the land and a large economy of labour. The Department of Agriculture have already done something to promote this development by research and experimental work and the dissemination of the results obtained.

The province has now been divided into seven more or less homogeneous tracts, where the problems will be studied on central and smaller farms. As yet only three central farms have been opened and funds and staff are urgently required for further development.

The province has no valuable export staple such as jute from Bengal or wheat from the Punjab. Of its old exports, opium is now extinct and indigo was on the downward grade. During the war, however, indigo recovered some of the ground lost in the fight with the synthetic dye. Systematic efforts are now being made to assist it to compete successfully in the open market with the manufactured product which will now again threaten its position. In furtherance of these efforts the Secretary of State has sanctioned the creation of a temporary post of Research Botanist to make an investigation into the possibility of increasing the indican content of the indigo plant.

The hopes of obtaining an export of first-class importance are now centred on sugar. A sugarcane research station is being formed at Sipaya while experiments in drainage for cane have produced valuable results

at Ranchi which may materially increase the yield in many parts of the province. The visit of the Sugar Committee in December has stimulated interest generally, and it seems probable that new factories will spring up throughout Bihar provided the present high prices for sugar continue. Applications for Government loans for the purchase of petrol driven tractors are now being received and granted on favourable terms.

Bihar and Orissa, although smaller in area than the United Provinces or the Punjab, contains a larger number of cattle and includes in the North Bihar districts a highly important cattle breeding tract. It is essential that the veterinary staff should be able successfully to cope with serious outbreaks of cattle disease. Sanction has recently been given to the proposals of the Local Government for an increase of the superior supervising staff to ensure the efficient development of the department and for a large expansion of the subordinate grades with improved rates of pay and conditions of service.

Industry.

While the population of the province will always remain primarily agricultural, there is yet plenty of scope for the development of industries. Steps were taken to organize a Department of Industry, which began work in April 1920.

The armistice reduced the large demands on the mines and was in consequence followed by a temporary decrease in the output of iron, copper and mica. But the exploitation of the rich mineral deposits of Chota Nagpur continued unabated. Mining and prospecting leases were granted to several companies in the Kolhan state of Singhbhum district, and the extensions of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway of which one is in course of construction and others are under consideration will rapidly open out the concessions. The future industrial developments are being planned on Western lines and are fast converting a remote and jungly tract into one of the most important industrial centres of modern India.

Outside the mining area, there are many industries of the cottage class which are capable of development, the chief being handloom weaving. The power looms of foreign and Indian mills have not by any means ousted the home industry from local markets. But lack of organization and business capacity has hitherto prevented the hand-weavers from raising their standard of living or freeing themselves from complete dependence on local cloth dealers and money-lenders. The Local Government have endeavoured through the agency of the co-operative movement to help these weavers, and other workers engaged in similar industries, to raise themselves from their present impoverished state, and in advance of the establishment of the Industries Department, a special post of Inspector of Industries was created and a Technical Expert in weaving appointed to it.

The continued expansion of the Tata Iron and Steel Company at Jamshedpur has been attended by the growth of a large industrial population which will increase rapidly with the development of the primary industry and of the numerous subsidiary industries to be established in the same area. In order that adequate provision should be made from the start for the problems of housing and of municipal services which will necessarily arise, the Local Government, with the approval of the Government of India, appointed a Committee to examine the various problems connected with the future administration of the area. The Committee recommended the

establishment of a Board of Works representative of Government and commercial interests, which will undertake the improvement of the area, carry out the local administration, and secure healthy conditions of living for the labour employed, and their recommendations are now being considered.

Public Works.

In view of the probability of the demand for energy for industrial purposes outstripping the supply of coal, a special officer was deputed to carry out detailed investigations and surveys in connection with the possible sites for hydro-electric schemes in this province. Two were selected as being worthy of closer examination which is now being undertaken.

Surveys in connection with the scheme for supplementing the supply of water for irrigation in the area depending on the Son canals system have continued. The sewerage scheme for the new capital at Patna was sanctioned by the Government of India and work begun on it during the year.

Forests.

The cessation of urgent demands for the provision of materials for war purposes has enabled the Forest Staff to devote increased attention to other problems. Nearly two thousand acres of land were acquired for a large extension of the Casuarina plantation at Puri which will, besides giving a useful fuel supply, preserve the water catchment area of Puri from contamination.

Attention was paid to the stimulation of the lac industry. An officer deputed by the Government of India investigated the problem in this province, and an experimental station in the Palamau district was established for the scientific propagation of lac. A private forest of some four thousand acres was acquired in the Ranchi district and schemes for the acquisition of another private forest near Jamshedpur for a fuel supply for that growing town, and of forest lands in the Damodar valley in order to check denudation and consequent floods are under preparation.

Co-operation.

The rapid growth of the co-operative movement holds out promise for still greater progress in the near future. Care and discrimination are, however, necessary in the formation of new societies, and experienced guidance is essential in the initiation of non-agricultural and industrial societies. Public confidence in the financial soundness of the movement is still largely dependent on an adequate official staff. The rapid growth in the number of societies has rendered it impossible for the Registrar to carry out his duties without the help of a largely increased staff. Accordingly proposals for its expansion were submitted to the Secretary of State, and sanction was received for the appointment of a Deputy Registrar of Collector's rank who will assist the Registrar together with a junior officer of the Indian Civil Service and six Deputy Collectors. Owing at once to shortage of staff and to financial stringency these posts could not be completely filled.

Although official guidance is still indispensable for the continued success of the movement, sufficient progress has already been made for a large advance towards placing the responsibility of inspection and audit of the primary societies upon the non-official organization of the movement. With this end in view an Audit Federation was started in June and the great majority of societies have already consented to pay the levy required for it activities. At the same time the Federation will continue to require Government assistance both financial and otherwise until the resources of its constituent members are more fully developed and the non-official element has learnt more fully to play its part in fostering the movement.

Education.

Good progress has been made in the scheme for the development of technical education. The proposals for the remodelling of the Bihar School of Engineering have been completed and the Government of India have made a capital grant of Rs. 1,00,000 and a recurring grant of Rs. 50,000 towards the scheme for an aided technical school for mechanical and electrical engineering at the railway centre of Jamalpur. The arrangements for the opening of a similar school in connection with the metallurgical industries at Jamshedpur are progressing. The scheme for the establishment of a school of mines at Dhanbad which received the general approval of the Industrial Commission is now being revised by the Mining Education Advisory Board.

By the middle of the year the plans for the new University building were well advanced, but the receipt of the report of the Calcutta University Commission has since made it necessary to re-examine the whole project and it has been decided on the advice of a representative committee to revise the plans on the assumption that the intermediate classes will be excluded from the new site, that the honours course only will be extended to three years and that teaching will be concentrated in the main University buildings. The establishment of additional honours and post-graduate classes has been sanctioned temporarily at Patna College and classes have actually been held since July. The temporary post-graduate teaching scheme will be completed by the introduction of M. Sc. classes in Chemistry and Physics next session. In order to make room for this teaching, the intermediate classes of the College have been transferred to the Patna Collegiate School. To this extent one of the most important recommendations of the Saddler Commission had been anticipated.

Local Self-Government.

Four of the more progressive District Boards were offered the privilege of electing a non-official Chairman; and three of them accepted the offer. There was some increase in the activities of the Local Boards and thirteen new Union Committees were constituted. The formation of these unions is of special importance as, under the present law, they alone have the power to enforce any effective measures for the preservation of the public health in rural or semi-rural areas.

Financial.

Schemes of improvement which are particularly necessary in a newly constituted province were perforce postponed while the war was in progress, and expenditure was necessarily confined to non-recurring items such as buildings and communications. These restrictions on expenditure were considerably relaxed in the budget for 1919-20, in which the Local Government were allowed a draft of nearly thirty lakhs upon their accumulated balances, of which two-thirds was available for other purposes than the completion of the new capital. The special feature of the budget was the inclusion of nearly six lakhs for new schemes involving recurring expenditure. A large share of this was allotted to Education and substantial assistance was afforded to local bodies responsible for the financing of primary schools. Unfortunately the new financial year had scarcely opened before the Ways and Means position of the Government of India made it necessary to impose again on Local Governments the restrictions removed with almost as much stringency as in the later years of the war.

PART II.

THE REPORT.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1919-20.

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ADMINISTRATION OF BIHAR AND ORISSA, 1919-20.

CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

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PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE COUNTRY, AREA, CLIMATE AND CHIEF STAPLES.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY.

FORM OF ADMINISTRATION.

CHARACTER OF LAND TENURES; SYSTEM OF SURVEYS AND SETTLEMENTS.

CIVIL DIVISIONS OF BRITISH TERRITORY.

DETAILS OF THE LAST CENSUS, TRIBES AND LANGUAGES.

See—

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR 1911-12, PART II, PAGES 1-129.

The Lieutenant-Governor.

1. The Hon'ble Sir Edward Albert Gait, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., held charge as Lieutenant-Governor throughout the year.

Headquarters of Government and Lieutenant-Governor's Tours.

2. The headquarters of the Government were at Ranchi from the 2nd April to the 10th November and at Patna for the remainder of the year. **Headquarters of Government.**

3. On the 1st April His Honour left Patna for Puri and reached Ranchi on the 17th April. **Tours.**

On the 15th May His Honour visited Patna, and, after the inauguration of the Provincial Famine Relief Fund, returned to Ranchi on the 18th.

In August His Honour visited Buxar, Dumraon and Patna from Ranchi.

Leaving Ranchi on the 10th September, the Lieutenant-Governor was the guest of His Excellency the Viceroy at Simla from the 12th to 19th and returned to Ranchi on the 21st September.

In November His Honour visited Cuttack leaving Ranchi on the 10th and arriving at Patna on the 12th.

From the 13th to 16th January the Lieutenant-Governor was the guest of His Excellency the Governor of Bengal at Calcutta, and, returning to Patna on the 17th January, left the next day for Delhi for the conference of the Heads of Provinces with His Excellency the Viceroy. His Honour returned to Patna on the 24th January.

From the 11th to 20th February His Honour toured in the Champaran district and visited Palamau in March.

Changes in the Administration.

4. The Hon'ble Sir Saiyid Ali Imam, K.C.S.I., resigned his appointment as Member of the Executive Council of Bihar and Orissa with effect from the 18th August 1919 and the Hon'ble Rai Bahadur Krishna Sahay was appointed in his place. **Executive Council.**

Legislative Council.

5. In March 1920 the term of office of the Additional Members of the Bihar and Orissa Legislative Council was extended up to the date of formation of the reformed Council.

Appointment of Indians to the Indian Civil Service by nomination in India.

6. In January 1920 four Indians who are natives of this province were appointed on the recommendation of the Local Government as probationers for the Indian Civil Service.

Indian Civil Service.

7. Orders were received from the Secretary of State for India sanctioning revised rates of pay for the Indian Civil Service with effect from the 1st December 1919.

Superior establishment of the Patna High Court and Orissa Circuit Court.

8. Orders were received in December 1919 from the Secretary of State sanctioning on a permanent basis the posts of Registrar, Deputy Registrar, Assistant Registrar and Law Reporter of the Patna High Court and Assistant Registrar of the Orissa Circuit Court.

Provincial Judicial Service.

9. Orders were received from the Government of India sanctioning as a temporary measure the raising of the pay of the lowest grade of Munsifs and of officiating Munsifs from Rs. 200 to Rs. 250 a month with effect from the 30th July 1919.

Subordinate Executive Service.

10. In consequence of the introduction of the scheme for the appointment of ziladars to fill the Canal Revenue posts held by Sub-Deputy Collectors, three appointments were abolished in the cadre of the Subordinate Executive Service with effect from the 26th August 1919.

Departmental Examination of Sub-Deputy Collectors.

11. In December 1919 the higher standard test of the Departmental Examination was made optional for Sub-Deputy Collectors.

Relations with Feudatory States and Frontier Affairs.

FEUDATORY STATES OF CHOTA NAGPUR.

(Report on the states by the Commissioner of the Chota Nagpur Division.)

[Two states. (1) Seraikela : area 479 square miles; population, 109,794; total income from all sources, Rs. 2,09,305; Chief, Raja Bahadur Udit Narayan Singh Deo, aged 71 years. (2) Kharsawan : area, 153 square miles; population, 38,852; total income from all sources, Rs. 99,858; Chief, Raja Sriram Chandra Singh Deo, aged 29 years.]

Administration.

12. The two states continued under the administration of their own Chiefs.

Revenue.

13. The percentage of total collection on the total demand and of current collection on the current demand increased in Seraikela from 72·39 and 54·75 to 97·97 and 82·96 and in Kharsawan from 70·31 and 77·2 to 80·33 and 87 respectively. The increase was due to the excellent harvests obtained during the year.

Administration of Justice.

14. The number of criminal cases brought to trial increased slightly in both the states.

Jails.

15. The daily average population in jail increased in both the states. There were no escapes.

Excise.

16. Excise revenue increased in Seraikela but in Kharsawan there was a decrease due to remissions granted to license holders owing to failure of the *mahua* crop and the scarcity prevailing in the early part of the year.

Public Works.

17. Expenditure in Seraikela rose from Rs. 25,249 to Rs. 42,318. The principal work undertaken was the construction of the Seraikela—Sine and Seraikela—Kharsawan roads.

Weather and crops.

18. In both the states the first portion of the year was marked by severe distress and scarcity, due to the failure of the previous monsoon. Food-stuffs were imported from outside and a large number of persons obtained employment at the Tata Iron and Steel Works and on the construction of the

Amda-Jamda Railway. Rs. 18,440 was spent in Seraikela on relief works in the shape of roads, tanks and bandhs. The latter part of the year was prosperous owing to the excellence of the crops and the high prices obtained.

TRIBUTARY AND FEUDATORY STATES OF ORISSA.

[Report on the states for the year 1919-20 by the Commissioner of the Orissa Division]

[Number of states, 24; total area, 28,054 square miles; total population, 3, 798, 130; total income from all sources, Rs. 81,13,655.]

Administration of Land Revenue.

19. The states of Athgarh, Athmallik, Baud, Daspalla, Dhenkanal, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Narsinghpur, Nayagarh, Nilgiri and Pallahara continued under the management of Government. The Gangpur State was released from management in May 1919 and the state of Bamra came under administration owing to the death of the Chief on the 1st January 1920 and the minority of his successor. The remaining eleven states, viz., Baramba, Bonai, Hindol, Kalahandi, Khandpara, Patna, Rairakhol, Ranpur, Sonpur, Talcher and Tigiria continued under the administration of their own Chiefs.

Collection of Revenue.

20. The Revenue collection of 20 states out of 24 showed an improvement over last year in the percentage of collection on the current demand; the increased collection was due to the good harvests of the year. The remaining four states showed a slight decrease.

Settlement.

21. Settlement operations were in progress in seven states. Work was restricted in some cases owing to the scarcity.

Crime and Police.

22. The number of cases reported to the police increased considerably in all the states except Nilgiri and Rairakhol. Most of the increase consisted of petty thefts and burglaries due to the prevailing distress. The year was however marked by a formidable outbreak of dacoity in Bonai State which was eventually suppressed with the aid of armed police from Ranchi and Angul. 77 persons were arrested of whom 73 had been convicted and 4 were under trial at the close of the year. There were 140 cases in all. In Kalahandi several dacoities were committed by Sahebu Domb, a notorious criminal, who had escaped from the State jail during the year. He was eventually shot in resisting arrest by the police. A severe outbreak in Keonjhar, which was an off-shoot of the disturbances in Bonai, was efficiently dealt with by the Keonjhar police who arrested the two ring-leaders. The work and conduct of the police was well reported on in almost all the states.

Administration of Justice.

23. The total number of cases brought to trial increased in seventeen states; the increase was most marked in Patna and Kalahandi. In six states there was a decrease and in one the number was the same as in the previous year. The average duration in trial showed a further improvement this year both in police cases as well as complaint cases.

Cases disposed of.

24. The total number of civil suits for disposal decreased. The administration of civil justice remained on the whole satisfactory, the proportion of the total number of suits disposed of to the total number of suits for disposal being 90 per cent. against 89 per cent. in the previous year.

Jails.

25. The daily average population of the state jails increased during the year owing to the scarcity. The discipline of the prisoners was good. The death-rate was again high owing to outbreaks of cholera and influenza. There were 55 escapes against 33 in the previous year.

Forests.

26. The forest revenue of all the states (including Kharsawan and Seraikela) increased from Rs. 12,07,774 to Rs. 14,01,275, the highest figure so far reached. The increase was shared by 20 states, the largest increase, viz., Rs. 44,711 being shown by Patna. There is reported to have been a continued demand for timber and forest produce of all kinds since the war. The work of the forest staff is well reported on. The system of training men at the Government Forestry Schools has had good results and the number of trained officers is gradually increasing.

Excise.

27. The total excise revenue increased. The increase was shared by 12 states and in the remaining states there was a decrease. No cases of smuggling occurred. The system of supplying Rajshahi *ganja* to the states continued to work satisfactorily.

Public Works.

28. The expenditure on public works increased by Rs. 2,84,904, in addition to which several states incurred further expenditure on relief works. Special attention was devoted to improvement of communications.

Weather and crops; material condition of the people.

29. There was severe distress is the early part of the year owing to the failure of the previous monsoon. Dhenkanal, Hindol and Talcher were in a state of famine. The arrangement made for supplying employment to the distressed population by relief and other works and in various industrial undertakings was adequate. The food supply was maintained by importation of rice from outside where required. The Maharaja of Sonpur showed great public spirit in contributing the whole of his surplus stock of rice at low rates to the service of other states.

Crops.

30. Excellent crops were reaped throughout the states during the year for which high prices were realized.

Vaccination.

31. The vaccination staff were fully engaged during the year, and the figures for the year were the highest recorded. Female vaccinators continued to be employed and their work was reported to be very successful.

Dispensaries.

32. The number of patients treated in the dispensaries again substantially increased as in the two previous years, showing that their popularity is growing.

Education.

33. There was a decrease both in the number of schools and of pupils due to the failure of crops and epidemics of the previous year. With the good harvests of the year matters are expected to improve.

Education of minor chiefs.

34. The minor Chief of Mayurbhanj returned from England in May and received practical instruction in the administration of his state. He came of age and was put in charge of his state after the close of the year. The minor Chief of Nilgiri is reported to have done well at the Mayo College, Ajmere. The minor Chiefs of Athmalik, Baud, Dhenkanal, Narsingpur, Daspalla, Pallahara and Athgarh, who are studying at Raipur, were also reported to be doing well. The minor Chief of Baud was made head prefect of the College.

Mines and Manufature.

35. The exploitation of the mineral wealth of the states continued satisfactorily, and there was considerable competition for prospecting licenses and mining leases.

Recruitment for labour-corps.

36. One thousand nine hundred and forty-four men were enrolled in 12 states and sent to the training camp at Puri. The standard of physique was raised during the year and the bonus or advance no longer given.

Condition of the people.

(Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the province of Bihar and Orissa, for the year 1919-20.)

37. The failure of crops in the previous year combined with unprecedented high prices of all indispensable commodities produced acute distress in the beginning of the year among the poorer cultivators and the landless classes. The situation was at its worst about June but began to improve after the *Bhadai* harvest in September and October, and the rice crop in December and January brought great relief. The price of rice rose to 3½ seers a rupee in some places during July and August against 6 seers in April. Famine had to be declared in the Bhagalpur district south of the Ganges, the Deoghar subdivision of the Santal Parganas and the Sadr subdivision of Angul, but scarcity, more or less severe, prevailed everywhere in the province especially in parts of the districts of the Santal Parganas, Monghyr, Cuttack, Balasore, Puri, Manbhum and Singhbum where relief measures were undertaken. The reserved forests were thrown open to the people in Angul who were thus enabled to gather edible roots and fruits and the land revenue demand, the first *kist* of which fell due on the 15th November, was suspended. Steps were

taken to stimulate public charity and circles were formed for the distribution of gratuitous relief. Rice was sold through the medium of the District and Local Boards in Manbhum and by the District Committee in Singhbhum at cost price and sometimes even lower. The mining and industrial companies in Manbhum and Singhbhum arranged for the supply of rice to their employés. Some employment was provided for the labouring classes by the distribution of Land Improvement loans on a generous scale and loans under the Agriculturists' Loans Act were given freely for the purchase of seeds. The recruitment of labourers for tea gardens helped greatly to relieve the situation ; and people emigrated in search of employment to Calcutta and elsewhere. As in the previous year, the expansion of the coal, mica, lac and iron industries in the Chota Nagpur Division did much to assist the labouring population by providing employment at good wages.

The general health of the people was on the whole better than in the previous year although the high prices of food-grains continued to militate against the maintenance of a good standard. The influenza epidemic of the previous year died out in the opening month of the year under report but not before it had greatly reduced the vitality of the people. It was succeeded by a severe outbreak of cholera in Manbhum and parts of Orissa. The normal death-rate was trebled in the coalfield area into which masses of enfeebled persons had crowded for work, and was doubled in the rest of the affected area, although everything possible was done to provide medical aid to the people. Influenza reappeared in epidemic form in the districts of Bhagalpur and the Santal Parganas. On the other hand there was an appreciable decrease in the death rate in all the districts of the Tirhut Division and no serious out-break of other diseases has been reported in the province.

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Realization of the Revenue.

[Report of the Land Revenue Administration of the Province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1918-19.]

Collection of Land Revenue.

38. The total number of estates paying land revenue increased from 1,10,575 to 1,11,875 mainly on account of partitions. The current demand increased by Rs. 32,916 to Rs. 1,52,43,604, the percentage of total collection on total demand being 96·92. The percentage of collection in estates held direct by Government was comparatively low owing to the poorness of the crops. Rs. 28,793 was remitted during the year in these estates, largely in favour of tenants in the Bhagalpur district who had enlisted for military service.

Operation of the Sale Law.

39. The number of estates sold for non-payment of land revenue fell from 414 to 375. The prices realized averaged 12·7 times the Government revenue. In 21 cases sales were set aside by the Commissioners and in 12 cases sales were annulled by the Board of Revenue on their recommendation.

Redemption of Land Rrevenue.

40. There was no case of redemption of land revenue during the year.

Miscellaneous Revenue.

41. The tota collection of miscellaneous revenue, including receipts from forest lands in Government estates, increased from Rs. 7,08,803 to Rs. 8,24,839. There was an improvement under the heads Recovery of Survey and Settlement Charges, Royalties and Forest Receipts.

Sales in Government Estates.

42. Six houses belonging to Government in Gaya Town were sold for Rs. 975 and certain railway lands no longer required in Gaya, Monghyr and Purnea were sold for Rs. 23,529.

Payment of Revenue and Rent by Money Orders.

43. The system of remittance of land revenue and cess by money order again increased in popularity. The number rose from 183,216 to 199,054 and the value from Rs. 15,82,036 to Rs. 16,25,277. Tirhut, Orissa and Patna Divisions contributed to the increase.

Certificate Procedure.

44. The number of certificates issued, excluding those for cess, rose from 38,875 to 47,784. Actual sale of property was only resorted to in 2,727 cases, in nearly one-fifth of which the sale was subsequently set aside.

Land Registration.

45. The number of applications for disposal including 14,495 pending from last year was 64,064. Of these 51,269 were disposed of during the year. The total number of recorded interests amounts to 922,742. Re-writing of Register D, Part I and Register A was completed in Patna and in progress in Gaya and Monghyr. The preparation of fresh registers in Puri to replace those destroyed by fire in 1916 was completed.

Partition.

46. Cases instituted and disposed of were 484 and 397 against 407 and 410 in 1918. One thousand and seventy-three cases were pending of which 306 were pending over two years.

Surveys.

[Report on the Survey and Settlement Operations in the Province of Bihar and Orissa for the year ending the 30th September 1920.]

Outturn of the year.

47. The programme of traverse survey was 703 square miles in the district of Manbhum, at a cost rate of Rs. 47 against Rs. 44 last year. In addition to this eleven miscellaneous petty surveys were undertaken. The whole programme was completed within the year.

Missing Ganges Diara reference pillars in Shahabad, Saran, Muzaffarpur, Santal Parganas and Purnea were restored, and the position of missing boundary pillars was demarcated for a distance of 57 miles on the boundary between Nepal and the Araria subdivision of Purnea.

48. In the Imperial Standard Mapping Section five old two-inch standard sheets, on were sent to the Map Publication office for publication. The sheets relate to the districts of Palamau, Hazaribagh, Ranchi and portions of Jaspur and Sarguja States (Central Provinces). Six uncorrected proofs were examined. **Bihar and Orissa Drawing Office.**

In the Provincial Section the district map of Gaya is nearing completion and will be published early next year, and that of Palamau has been put in hand. The district maps of Sambalpur and Ranchi are nearly ready for publication. In future requisitions for these maps will be met from the Drawing Office and not from the Survey of India. Seven thana maps, on eighteen sheets, falling in the districts of Palamau and Champaran, were compiled. The cost was a little below that of last year. Ninety-one Special Ganges Diara Reference pillars from the old 16″ maps were entered on the 16″ revised survey maps of Saran and Muzaffarpur districts with their serial numbers.

49. At the request of the Collector of Patna, a 16″ experimental survey was made of nine Patna Diara Government estates comprising an area of 30,866·78 acres. **Experimental Survey.**

Land Records and Settlements.

[Report of the Director of Land Records and Surveys, Bihar and Orissa, for the year ending the 30th September 1920.]

50. Survey and Settlement operations were in progress during the year in four districts of the province. The area cadastrally surveyed consisted of 847 square miles in Manbhum. The records of 784 square miles were attested and those of 878 square miles were finally published. The rents of 120,744 tenants were settled. The expenditure of the year amounted to Rs. 3,98,452. **General.**

51. The revision of the Survey and Settlement operations in the district of Muzaffarpur has been postponed for a further period of four years from 1920-21, under the Government of India's order No. 748-222-2, dated the 11th August 1920. The operations will, therefore, be taken up in 1924-25. The revision settlement of the Kodarma Government estate in the district of Hazaribagh and that of Orissa and Sambalpur will be taken up in 1921-22. The revision of Survey and Settlement operations in the district of the Santal Parganas will be taken up in 1922-23. The Deputy Commissioner of Angul is in correspondence with the Commissioner of the Orissa Division for a further postponement of the next revision settlement in the district of Angul. **Future programme.**

52. Two settlement officers were employed during the year. The largest number of assistant settlement officers employed was 54 as against 74 in the previous year, of whom 21 were in North Bihar and 33 in Chota Nagpur. This number comprised 2 civilians, 12 Deputy Collectors, 4 Munsifs, 25 Sub-Deputy Collectors and 11 non-gazetted officers. **Settlement staff.**

53. The final reports on the survey and settlement operations in the district of Palamau, and on the revision operations in the district of Champaran and in the Kolhan Government estate in Singhbhum were submitted to the Board during the year. The final report on the re-settlement of the Banki Government estate in Cuttack is passing through the press. **Final Reports.**

54. Survey and Settlement operations were in progress in the districts of Manbhum and Palamau. **Chota Nagpur Settlement Staff and extent of operations.**

55. In Palamau the programme of the year consisted of (i) recovery of cost by certificate procedure and (*ii*) recovery of cost of the settlement operations in 2,111 square miles of the third and fourth years' area. **Palamau.**

The recovery camp was closed in April 1920 and the balance due is being recovered by certificate procedure.

Cost of the operations.

56. The total net cost of all the operations (including the traverse survey) up to the 30th September 1920 is Rs. 12,25, 209.

Manbhum.

57. The programme of the year in Manbhum consisted of (*i*) cadastral survey and khanapuri of block B, 840 square miles, (*ii*) cadastral and khanapuri recess work of this block, (*iii*) attestation and draft publication of block A, 784 square miles, (*iv*) case work under section 83(*1*) and 111 (*6*) of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act in block A, and (*v*) settlement recess work of block A.

The whole programme was completed before the end of September with the exception of settlement recess work which will be finished shortly. The ignorance of most of the staff of Bengali and the peculiar rent systems of the district made the initial rate of work very slow. The programme of field work was completed in about six months.

Attestation and Draft Publication.

58. The programme for attestation was completed by the end of August 1920: the camps began to close by the end of April. The records were draft published in due time after they were attested.

Cost of all operations.

59. The total net cost of all operations excluding traverse work up to the 30th September 1920 is Rs. 5,89,307. Owing to the rise in prices and the higher rates of pay necessitated thereby, as well as the excess of plots over the number estimated the original estimate of the cost of the operations will be exceeded.

60. In Saran the records of 1,639 villages of the Sadr Subdivision and 9 villages of the Siwan Subdivision making up an area of 878 square miles were finally published.

Final publication.

61. Cess revaluation rolls were published *pari pasu* with the final publication of the record-of-rights under section 37E of the Cess Act. The final publication of six villages of the Sonepur thana, where the Sonepur fair is held had to be postponed as the landlords would not disclose their correct income from this source.

Cess Revaluation.

62. The cess revaluation work of the Sadr subdivision was taken up under section 37 of Chapter II-A and all the rolls except those of 11 villages of thana Sonepur were published along with the record-of-rights.

Costs.

63. The total expenditure during the year was Rs. 2,02,913. The receipts in stamps are Rs. 2,06,519 from cess work of the three subdivisions of the district of Saran.

Recovery of costs.

64. Recovery was made in the Siwan Subdivision and Rs. 4,22,068 was recovered out of the total demand of Rs. 4,36,734 during the year. The balance of Rs. 14,665 is almost all due from petty non-resident landlords. It is being recovered by certificate, but the work is slow owing to the difficulty of executing certificates against this class.

Proposals of apportionment of cost in the Sadr Subdivision of the Saran district at the rate of eight annas per acre from landlords and six annas from raiyats were submitted to Government.

Deposit of records.

65. All the volumes of the record-of-rights of the Gopalganj subdivision and all the case records excepting those not returned by the appellate court have been deposited in the Collectorate. The deposit of records of the Siwan subdivision commenced at the end of the year.

Champaran Settlement.

66. Deposit of records in the Collectorate and noting of decisions have been almost completed. All the section 40 appeals pending last year were decided by the Commissioner who upheld the decisions of the revenue officer in all of them.

Muzaffarpur.

67. The revision operation in this district was to have been taken up in 1920-1921, and the preliminary work of copying register D and preparing indexes was taken up in the middle of July 1920. The work was almost finished, but has been stopped on account of the suspension of the operations for another four years under orders of the Government of India, dated the 11th August 1920.

68. The work done during the year consisted of confirmation of the settlement rent-roll in all the 144 villages of the Banki Government estate containing 31,329 tenants, final publication of the records of the same villages containing 169,940 plots, and settlement of rent under section 128 of the Orissa Tenancy Act in 7 cases relating to 39 tenants. The operations were brought to a close and records were deposited in the Collectorate. Banki Government Estate in Cuttack.

69. New maps of 132 villages covering an area of 210 square miles comprising the Bora Sambhar Zemindari were prepared and the preliminary records of 155 villages containing 63,239 plots comprising the Bora Sambhar Zemindari and the Padampur circle written. This completes the preparation of new maps and the preliminary record-of-rights for the whole district. Preparation of new maps and records.

70. The working of the experimental mutation offices at Hajipur and Mahnar in the district of Muzaffarpur was continued during the year under report. The number of mutations registered was 3,405 against 3,452 in the previous year. The total receipts from all sources in the two offices amounted to Rs. 1,150-14-0 against a total expenditure of Rs. 2,348-14-1 including the sum of Rs. 1,500, the fixed salaries of mutation registrars drawn by them from the Registration department. North Bihar Mutation Offices.

71. In the districts of Gaya and Champaran the work of preparation of dafadari registers and of distribution of extracts from them to dafadars and officers in charge of police-stations was completed during the year. The work is still in progress in the districts of Palamau and Saran. The marks situated in the Government estates were, as a rule, found undisturbed. In parganas Barahabhum and Patkum in the district of Manbhum a large number of marks were found damaged which were restored. Maintenance of Boundary Marks.

A sum of Rs. 17,426 recovered in advance in respect of district Palamau was transferred to the Fund for the maintenance of boundary marks.

Government Estates.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1919-20.]

72. The total number of estates under direct management during the year including 68 estates managed by Government for private individuals was 324 against 315 in the previous year. The current demand was Rs. 19,08,998 against Rs. 18,69,083. Collection expenses rose from Rs. 1,48,683 to Rs. 1,68,600, and the percentage on the demand from 7·95 to 8·83, mainly owing to the payment of grain compensation allowance. Number and management of Government Estates.

73. Out of the total expenditure of Rs. 1,79,268 on improvements, Rs. 37,887 was spent on tanks and wells, Rs. 52,498 on drainage, irrigation and embankments, Rs. 37,743 on roads and bridges and the remaining Rs. 51,140 on miscellaneous objects including tree-planting. A special grant was made to Angul of Rs. 9,577 from hide license fees and of Rs. 3,600 for petty land works. Improvements.

74. The payment of District Board cess at the full rate of 6¼ per cent on the total amount of rent collected in estates continued. The grants of 1 and 1½ per cent on account of primary education and improvement of roads continued in the district of Sambalpur and in the *Damin-i-koh* Government estate in the Santal Parganas. Education, roads and communications.

75. In the Patna division the material condition of the tenants was satisfactory. The paddy and *rabi* crops were good and the *bhadai* was an improvement on last year. Cultivators benefited from the high prices of foodgrains. Conditions in Darbhanga and Saran were also on the whole good. In Monghyr the crops on most of the diaras were washed away by flood and the *rabi* was also damaged by rain. Damage to the *bhadai* in Bhagalpur owing to floods of the Ganges was fully compensated for by bumper paddy and *rabi* crops. In Angul famine conditions prevailed during the first half of the year. Relief works were opened and gratuitous relief was afforded on a liberal scale. There was also distress in Banpur in the Khurda subdivision where relief centres were opened and grain golas started. In Hazaribagh the Condition of raiyats.

outturn of winter paddy was exceptionally good in all the Government estates and relieved the situation for the tenantry who had suffered from acute scarcity in the early part of the year. In Ranchi the condition of the tenants was not satisfactory owing to high prices of food-grains. The tenants in the districts of the Orissa division as well as in Bhagalpur suffered severely from influenza.

Wards, Attached, Trust and Encumbered Estates.

[Report on the Administration of Wards, Attached, Trust and Encumbered Estate for the year 1919-20.]

Number of estates under management.

76. Seven new estates came under the management of the Court of Wards during the year and six were released. The total number of estates under management at the close of the year was 139 of which 84 were managed under the Chota Nagpur Encumbered Estates Act, 1876.

Payment of Government demands.

77. The percentage of payment of revenue and cesses due to Government was 99·6 against 92·6 in the previous year.

Rent and Cesses due to superior landlords.

78. The percentage of payment of rent and cesses to superior landlords was 52·09 against 52·05 in the preceding year. The balance consists mainly of one large item about which there is a dispute among the co-sharer landlords.

Collection of rent and cesses due to estates.

79. The percentage of collections on the current demand was 102·5 against 95·3 in the previous year, the standard of 100 per cent being exceeded in all the divisions except Chota Nagpur.

Balances of rent and cesses to estates.

80. The reduction of outstanding balances from 82·5 to 72·2 per cent on the current, and from 45·2 to 39·7 per cent on the total demand was satisfactory.

Management charges.

81. The cost of management rose from 12·06 to 13·6 per cent of the current demand, the standard percentage of 10 per cent being exceeded in all the divisions except Bhagalpur and Chota Nagpur. This is mainly accounted for by payment of grain compensation allowance.

Improvements.

82. The total amount spent on schools, dispensaries and charities was Rs. 1,95,334 and on agricultural and sanitary improvements Rs. 1,35, 551.

Education of wards.

83. The progress of the wards in education was fair.

Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.

[Land Revenue Administration Report, 1919-20.]

Tenancy Acts.

84. A Bill to amend the Bengal Tenancy Act, which was under the consideration of the Local Government, was postponed, in deference to representations made both by landlords and tenants, for consideration by the Reformed Council. An Act to amend the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act of 1908 was passed by the Local Legislature in March 1920.

Five special officers were deputed to Gaya district to dispose of a large number of pending applications under sections 40, Bengal Tenancy Act. The peculiar conditions of irrigation in this district render the problem of commutation of produce rents one of unusual difficulty and importance on which widely divergent views have been expressed, and it is hoped that the labours of these officers will result in relaxing the tension which has become increasingly apparent in the relations between the landlords and tenants in Gaya.

Relation between landlords and tenants.

85. Strained relations between individual landlords and their tenants are reported in several districts, but are not of a charactor to attract special cause for uneasiness. With the spread of education the tenant must inevitably acquire a wider knowledge of his rights: and until the landlords have learnt to adjust themselves to new conditions both economic and social, a period of unrest must be expected. It is satisfactory to find mention of several landlords who rendered material assistance to their tenants during the hard times of the past year.

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION.

Legislative Council.

[Also refer for this the Bihar and Orissa Administration Report, 1911-12, Chapter III, pages 144—148.]

86. The only change in the personnel of the non-official members of the Council was caused by the resignation of his seat by the Hon'ble Mr. Watson Smyth as the representative of the Mining Community. This vacancy occurred in April and was filled in June by the election of the Hon'ble Mr. J. H. Pattinson. **Legislative Council.**

Course of Legislation.

87. Eight meetings of the Legislative Council were held during the year. The following Bills were introduced :— **Course of legislation.**

(1) The Jharia Water-Supply Amendment Bill, 1919.

(2) The Bihar and Orissa Municipal Survey Bill, 1919.

(3) The Bihar and Orissa Places of Pilgrimage Bill, 1919.

(4) The Bihar and Orissa Municipal (Sanitary Officers) Bill, 1920.

(5) The Chota Nagpur Tenancy (Amendment) Bill, 1920.

(6) The Bihar and Orissa Mining Settlements Bill, 1920.

The first five were passed during the year, and the last after the close of the year.

88. The Jharia Water-Supply (Amendment) Act, 1919, amends the Jharia Water-Supply Act, 1914, in respect principally of the delegation of powers from the Board and its Chairman. **Act III of 1919.**

89. The Bihar and Orissa Municipal Survey Act, 1920, provides for the survey and record of land in the municipalities of the Province in a self-contained form. **Act I of 1920.**

90. The Bihar and Orissa Places of Pilgrimage Act, 1920, re-enacts with modifications the Puri Lodging House Act, 1871, as subsequently amended and provides for the control and sanitation of places of pilgrimage. **Act II of 1920.**

91. The Bihar and Orissa Municipal (Sanitary Officers) Act, 1920, amends the Bengal Municipal Act, 1884, by inserting provisions for the appointment of Medical Officers of Health and Sanitary Inspectors in municipalities. **Act III of 1920.**

92. The Chota Nagpur Tenancy (Amendment) Act, 1920, is designed to supplement, extend and elucidate the provisions of the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act, 1908, and to remove deficiencies revealed by the working of the enactment especially in respect of procedure. **Act VI of 1920.**

93. The Bihar and Orissa Mining Settlements Act, 1920, amends and re-enacts the law relating to the control and sanitation of Mining Settlements in the province. **Act IV of 1920.**

Police.

[The Report on the Administration of the Police Department for the year 1919.—Statistics of British India, Part VI.—Administrative and Judicial.]

94. There was no change in the sanctioned Cadre of the Indian (Imperial) Police Service. At the close of the year three officers of the Indian Police **Civil Police.**

Service were serving with the army. The revised scales of pay sanctioned by the Secretary of State for the members of the Indian (Imperial) and the Bihar and Orissa (Provincial) Police Services were introduced during the year.

The sanctioned strength of the subordinate police force which on the 31st December 1919 stood at 14,739, was increased by twenty-seven officers and twenty-nine men and decreased by one Inspector and seven mounted constables on the abolition of the Patna Mounted Police. The Patna Armed Reserve was reduced by four head constables and sixty men while the Armed Reserves of Bhagalpur, Hazaribagh and Manbhum were increased by a total of six head constables and ninty men. The actual strength however fell short of the sanctioned strength by one hundred and seventeen officers and one hundred and forty-eight men.

The pay of head constables and constables and of the subordinate ranks of the Military Police companies was substantially increased during the year. Schemes for improvement of pay of Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors and also of Armed Inspectors and Sergeants are under consideration of the Local Government. The literacy of the force was 63 per cent. among men. There was no particular improvement over the previous year in respect of social standing, physique and general suitability of the newly recruited Sub-Inspectors.

Military Police.

95. The Mounted Military Police company the formation of which was sanctioned during the year was not up to full strength at the close of the year but satisfactory progress was being made in this direction. A detachment of the company proved very useful during the disturbances following the strike at Jamshedpur in the month of March. Detachments of other companies of Military Police were deputed in connection with apprehended disturbances during the Bakr-Id Muhammadan festival. A detachment of the Bhagalpur company was deputed to Jamalpur during the strike in the Railway workshop there. The conduct and discipline of these companies were very satisfactory.

Additional Police.

96. Additional Police forces which were quartered from October 1917 for two years in Shahabad and in the Aurangabad and Jahanabad Subdivisions of the district of Gaya in connection with the Bakr-Id riots were withdrawn on 18th October 1919. A force of additional Police was also quartered in Manohar Chapra and neighbouring villages in the district of Muzaffarpur for a period of 2 months in connection with Bakr-Id and Muharram disturbances.

Discipline.

97. There was an increase in the number of officers and men rewarded and also in judicial and departmental punishments. While only 3 officers were punished judicially under the Penal Code and none under the Police Act or any other law, judicial punishments among the men under the Penal Code and the Police Act rose from 49 to 75 and 47 to 86 respectively. In departmental proceedings major punishments, which include dismissals, rose from 98 to 103 in the case of officers and from 435 to 472 in that of men. The percentage of officers and men punished and rewarded showed little variation from the previous year. The number of charges brought by private persons against the police increased from 160 to 343. The persons concerned were 1 Inspector, 47 Sub-Inspectors, 32 Head Constables, 229 constables and 136 dafadars and chaukidars. In the great majority of these cases local magisterial enquiries were made. One hundred and eleven cases were found to be false or dismissed under Section 203, Criminal Procedure Code, 5 were declared true, 26 were compromised or withdrawn and 41 ended in acquittal; 27 cases were pending at the close of the year. Prosecutions were instituted under Section 211 or 182, Indian Penal Code, in 7 cases, 3 of which ended in conviction. The increase over last year's figures has not been satisfactorily accounted for. The main increase is in cases in which village police were concerned, only 1 chaukidar having been charged in the previous year against 136 dafadars and chaukidars in 1919.

Rural Police.

98. The working of the rural police force improved in many districts. A notable instance was the arrest by a dafadar and chaukidar in Muzaffarpur of the chief accused in an important murder case and the arrest of dangerous professional thieves by chaukidars in Darbhanga. Better results

can scarcely be expected until a general increase of pay of the village police becomes possible. The working of the Presidents of panchayats was again reported unfavourably.

Ordinary Crime.

99. There was a serious increase from 408 to 815 in the number of dacoity cases although the former figure includes about 100 cases relating to offences committed in connection with the Shahabad Bakr-Id disturbances of 1917. This figure is a record for the province. The most serious outbreak was—again in Manbhum which was responsible for 310 cases during the year. The arrest and conviction of notorious members of the Bhumij gang (both in the present and the previous year), did not materially improve the situation as numerous other members were still at large. The outbreak was effectually checked by the end of the year by the deputation of special armed police with additional investigating officers and the binding down of 262 bad characters under the Criminal Procedure Code. In Hazaribagh the figures rose from 31 to 78. Many of these cases were the work of a gang of Punjabi dacoits who were in possession of a double barrelled breach-loading gun and other weapons. Every effort was made to discover the gang but without success. Out of 64 cases in Ranchi only 3 cases with 15 persons ended in conviction. The increase in this and in other districts is attributed to high prices. Out of 53 cases in Bhagalpur district 28 occurred in the famine area in Banka Subdivision. Crime in this district ceased after the arrest and conviction of 7 leaders of the Ghorporan gang. In Champaran *terai* (submontane tract) on the northern border of the district gangs were responsible for several cases. Since the arrest of the notorious Kanhai Rauniar and some of his accomplices from Nepal, crime in the district has practically ceased. Cases of robbery increased from 160 in 1918 to 230. The increase which is attributed to the prevailing scarcity was greatest in the districts of Ranchi and Manbhum. Eighty-three cases were decided against 66 in 1918, and 120 out of 193 persons tried, were convicted.

The number of cases of burglary rose from 17,643 in 1918 to 28,338, an increase of 60 per cent. This increase was most marked in Chota Nagpur (93 per cent.) and Orissa (71 per cent.). Taking individual districts the greatest increase occurred in Angul (177 per cent.), Ranchi (148 per cent.), Hazaribagh (121 per cent.) and Sambalpur (119 per cent.). The increase is ascribed to prevailing scarcity and high prices during 1919. Out of 1919 cases decided, 89 per cent. ended in conviction against 87 in 1918.

The number of cognizable cases in which loss of property was reported rose from 27,365 in 1918 to 44,809. Property was recovered in 13,499 cases. The value of property stolen was reported to be Rs. 24,99,821 and that of property recovered Rs. 3,01,265 against Rs. 23,42,961 and Rs. 1,73,474 respectively in 1918.

False cases.

100. The percentage of cases declared false to the total reported crime fell from 3·1 in 1918 to 2·6, the decrease being general, except in the Tirhut Division. The percentage of prosecutions fell from 8·8 to 7·8. Results were satisfactory in Angul where in 5 out of 7 cases declared false the complainants were prosecuted and convicted. Of the other districts the best results were obtained in Gaya, Singhbhum, Patna, Cuttack, Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga. The percentage of convictions to cases prosecuted rose from 4 to 42. The percentages in Angul and Ranchi were 100 per cent each and in Champaran, Puri and Singhbhum 75 per cent each. The number of cases in which compensation was awarded under Section 250, Criminal Procedure Code, increased from 86 to 102. The provisions of the section are still insufficiently used. Of 11 prosecutions in connection with false civil suits pending at the close of the previous year four ended in conviction and five are still not disposed of. Four new cases were taken up during the year. With one officer only available for this special work it is difficult to meet the increasing demands that are being made for assistance.

Remands.

101. The percentage of cases decided at the first 3 hearings rose from 62 to 67·5. The percentage of cases remanded more than 6 times fell from 5·4 to 4·9.

Political Crime.

102. The Province was again free from revolutionary crime. At the beginning of the year there were 38 persons whose movements were restricted under the Defence of India Rules. All were released during the year, except 9 who were released later under the Royal Amnesty. During the year four persons were arrested under the Defence of India Rules; of these two were placed in home domicile and two, who were Bengalis, were expelled from the province. The Mahilang school for détenus was finally closed in September 1919 and all the inmates were released on security or removed to home domicile.

Mortality caused by wild animals and snakes.

[Report on the mortality caused by wild animals and venomous snakes and the measures adopted for their destruction in Bihar and Orissa for the year 1919.]

Wild animals.

103. The total number of deaths caused by wild animals rose from 565 to 691. The increase in mortality was accompanied by a slight increase in the number of wild animals destroyed.

As in the previous year tigers alone accounted for more than one half of the deaths and the districts mainly responsible were Singbhum, Manbhum, Ranchi and Cuttack. A welcome decrease in mortality from this cause occurred in Angul.

Snakes.

104. The number of deaths from snake bite was 5,369 against 5,256 in the previous year. The figures continued to be high in all the districts.

Destruction of wild animals.

105. The number of wild animals destroyed increased from 699 to 766; the increase was confined to the less destructive animals. The total amount of rewards paid for the destruction of wild animals amounted to Rs. 6,547 against Rs. 4,741 in the previous year. This result is due to the rewards paid for the destruction of tigers having risen by Rs. 720 in Angul and Rs. 1,000 in Singbhum.

Criminal Justice.

Judicial Staff.

106. Twelve Sessions Judges were employed throughout the year. The Additional District and Sessions Judge who was appointed in Muzaffarpur from the 18th July 1918 continued till the 24th August 1919, and again worked from the 31st August up to the end of the year. A second Additional District and Sessions Judge was also sanctioned for the district for six months from the 13th February 1919, but the appointment was held only from the 13th February to the 8th March. An Additional District and Sessions Judge was employed in Shahabad from the 1st January to the 27th January 1919 against the appointment which was sanctioned for six months from the 12th August 1918, but was held in 1918 only from the 12th August to the 22nd October.

The magisterial staff of the Province at the close of the year consisted of 263 Stipendiary and 296 Honorary Magistrates. Of the Honorary Magistrates two were Special Magistrates under section 14 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, who tried cases only under the Irrigation and Embankment Acts. Of the 263 Stipendiary Magistrates, 168 exercised first, 64 second, and 31 third class powers.

Offences reported.

107. There were 111,937 criminal offences reported during the year, of which 80,037 were offences under the Penal Code, while 31,899 were under special or local laws. These figures are higher than those of 1918 by 16,767 and 496 respectively. There was an increase in the number of offences reported in all districts with the exception of Saran and Gaya, the largest being in Hazaribagh (3,396), Monghyr (3,222), Darbhanga (2,137) and Manbhum (1,642). In Hazaribagh the increase which is chiefly in offences under the Penal Code is attributed to the fact that for some years past cases which were either not investigated or not detected by the Police were not shown as "reported". In the remaining three districts the increase was mostly in offences under the Penal Code, due chiefly to an increase in offences against property. This increase is attributed to scarcity and high prices.

108. The number of cases which were found to be false, or in which complaints were dismissed during the year was 23,934 or 21·4 per cent of the number reported, as compared with 22·5 per cent in 1918. Complaints were dismissed in 21,607 cases, 1,010 more than in 1918. The number of cases declared to be false after trial or inquiry was 2,327, 530 more than in 1918. Cases found to be false.

109. Of the total number of cases under inquiry during the year, 86,389 were found to be true, and of these 64,910 were brought to trial, showing an increase of 13,945 and 6,850 respectively as compared with 1918. Cases found to be true.

Original Jurisdiction.

I.—MAGISTRATES' COURTS.

110. At the opening of the year, 2,011 cases were pending before Magistrates. During the year 64,915 cases were brought to trial, including references under sections 347 and 349 of the Code of Criminal Procedure; 64,598 cases were disposed of and 2,294 remained pending at the close of the year. The number of cases decided during the year is more than that of 1918 by 6,895. The increase was mainly in cases under the Indian Penal Code (6,528). It was most marked in Champaran (1,018), Monghyr (913) and Puri (670). There was a decrease in two districts—Saran (428) and Purnea (256). Cases disposed of.

The disposals were distributed as follows :—

	Tried regularly.	Tried summarily.
District Magistrates	63	31
Subordinate Stipendiary Magistrates	45,676	7,400
Honorary Magistrates	6,808	75
Benches of Magistrates	3,274	1,093
Special Magistrates	13	...

Of the cases tried regularly by District Magistrates, the Deputy Commissioner and the Additional Deputy Commissioner of Hazaribagh and the Deputy Commissioner of Palamau disposed of 20 cases in exercise of special powers under section 30 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The Sadr Subdivisional Officer of Hazaribagh also disposed of 19 cases under these special powers.

111. Of the total number of cases shown in the preceding paragraph, 666 were committed or referred to Sessions; while 63,932 were finally disposed of by Magistrates. In these latter cases 104,691 persons were accused, as against 93,987 in the previous year. Forty-eight thousand, one hundred and thirty or 45·9 per cent were convicted; and 56,561 or 54·1 per cent were acquitted or discharged. The figures for 1918 were 45·2 and 54·7 per cent respectively. These figures have to be qualified by the statement that out of 56,561 persons acquitted or discharged, the cases of no less than 35,141 were compounded, withdrawn or dismissed for default. The percentage of convictions, therefore, of persons actually tried was 69·2, which is 2·6 per cent less than in 1918. Result of trials.

Of the persons tried for offences under the Penal Code, 24,270 or 35·2 per cent were convicted; and 44,683 or 64·8 per cent were acquitted or discharged. Excluding the cases of 26,533 persons compounded, withdrawn, or dismissed for default, the percentage of convictions was 57·2 against 53·9 in the previous year.

The total number of persons awaiting trial before Magistrates at the close of 1919 was 5,167, as compared with 4,686 in 1918. The number of persons in custody at the close of the year was 489, as against 460 at the end of 1918.

The general result of trial before Magistrates of each class was as follows:—

—	Acquitted or discharged.	Convicted.	Percentage of convictions.
1	2	4	5
Benches of Magistrates	2,828	3,468	55·08
Subordinate Stipendiary Magistrates ...	48,572	38,997	44·5
Honorary Magistrates	5,046	5,434	51·8
Special Magistrates	23	24	51·06
District Magistrates	92	207	69·2

Of the persons shown above as convicted, the following were tried summarily:—By Benches of Magistrates, 1,079; by Subordinate Stipendiary Magistrates, 9,496; by Honorary Magistrates, 73; and by District Magistrates, 56.

The mode of trial of the total number of persons convicted and the nature of the sentences passed were as follows:—

—	Appealable sentences.		Non-appealable sentences.	
	1918.	1919.	1918.	1919.
1	2	3	4	5
On regular trial	24,397	26,859	10,902	11,448
On summary trial	1,475	1,147	5,524	8,313

Punishments.

112. The sentences passed on the persons convicted were as follows:—

Imprisonment	Rigorous	15,209
	Simple	502
Fine ...	With imprisonment	1,631
	Without imprisonment	30,044
Whipping ...	Sole punishment	760
	Additional punishment	5

Terms of solitary confinement were included in 29 of the sentences of rigorous imprisonment as compared with 57 in the previous year. Forty-five youthful offenders were sentenced to detention in the Reformatory School, as against 30 in 1918.

In Puri whipping was inflicted in 286 cases as against 42 in the previous year. The increase is due to the fact that in a large number of petty theft cases juvenile offenders of poor classes were implicated and light sentences of whipping by way of school discipline were passed.

Eight hundred and eighty-seven persons were called upon to give security for good behaviour, and of these 853 were sentenced to terms of imprisonment not exceeding one year on failing to comply with the orders. Three hundred and forty-two persons were released on probation under section 562 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Of the sentences of imprisonment passed, 3,777 were for terms not exceeding 15 days; 10,090 for terms not exceeding six months; 2,559 for terms not exceeding two years; and 93 for terms exceeding two years. The fines imposed aggregated Rs. 3,18,948. During the year Rs. 2,47,976 were realized and Rs. 33,641 were paid as compensation to complainants out of fines.

Miscellaneous proceedings under the Code of Criminal Procedure.

113. There were 349 proceedings, involving 1,560 persons, under Chapter VIII of the Criminal Procedure Code, for the prevention of breach of the peace showing a decrease of 37 and 360, respectively, compared with 1918. Two hundred and sixty-five persons were bound down.

One thousand, three hundred and eighty-one persons in 606 cases were called upon to show cause why they should not give security to be of good behaviour, and the orders were made absolute against 1,070. Of these 983 failed togive the required security and were imprisoned in default, 130 of them after reference to the Court of Sessions under section 123 of the Code, and 853 under orders of Magistrates for terms not exceeding one year.

Proceedings for abatement of nuisances under Chapter X of the Code were taken in 565 cases and in the cases of 8 persons a reference was made to a Jury under section 138 of the Code. The number of cases under Chapter XII of the Code involving the question of the possession of land decided by Magistrates during the year was 770, a decrease of 71 from the figures for 1918.

Under section 250 of the Code, 308 complainants were ordered to pay compensation to accused persons. Proceedings for maintenance under Chapter XXXVI of the Code were taken against 511 persons, of whom 120 were ordered to give maintenance.

Witnesses.

114. The number of witnesses examined in the courts of Magistrates was 161,865 as compared with 132,805 in 1918. The number who were discharged without examination was 55,255 or 25·4 per cent of the whole number in attendance. In the preceding year the percentage was 29·9. The amount paid to witnesses on account of the expenses of attendance rose from Rs. 42,548 in 1918 to Rs. 79,498 in 1919.

Of the total number in attendance 161,389 (74·3 per cent) were discharged on the first day; 41,948 (19·3 per cent) on the second; 10,586 (4·9 per cent) on the third and 3,197 (1·5 per cent) after the third day. The percentages in 1918 were 75·4, 18·7, 4·6 and 1·2 respectively.

II.—Courts of Sessions.

Commitments, etc.

115. The number of cases committed for trial or referred during the year was 666, and the number disposed of, including the pending cases of the previous year, was 610. These figures show an increase of 163 and 62, respectively, over the figures for the preceding year. There were 114 cases pending at the close of the year.

Commitments increased in the Manbhum district from 54 to 91, in Saran from 23 to 55, in Muzaffarpur from 39 to 57, and in Bhagalpur from 18 to 35. On the other hand, the number fell in Gaya from 37 to 29, in Purnea from 29 to 21, and in Hazaribagh from 10 to 2.

The decrease in commitments in Hazaribagh is due to the fact that the Deputy Commissioner, the Additional Deputy Commissioner, and the Sadr Subdivisional Officer of Hazaribagh disposed of 37 cases concerning 192 persons in exercise of their special powers under section 30 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Results of trials.

116. The number of persons under trial before Courts of Sessions during the year was 2,036 against 1,477 in 1918. The cases of 1,822 persons were decided, and 310 remained under trial at the close of the year. Of the 1,822 persons tried, 947 or 51·9 per cent as against 836 or 63 per cent in 1918, were

convicted; 859 were acquitted or discharged; while the cases of 16 persons were referred to the High Court under sections 307 and 374 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Punishments.

117. The following sentences were passed by the Courts of Session during the year :—

Death		4
Transportation	For life	47
	For a term of year	22
Imprisonment	Rigorous	698
	Simple	21
Fine		83
Whipping		10

A sentence of solitary confinement was imposed in the case of one out of 693 persons sentenced to rigorous imprisonment. Sixty-two of the sentences of fine and 5 of whipping were additional punishments. Besides the above, 130 persons were sentenced to rigorous or simple imprisonment (7 for a term not exceeding one year and 123 for terms between one year and three years) on failure to furnish security for good behaviour. Sentences of imprisonment were passed for the following terms :—

Not exceeding	15 days	19
	6 months	72
	2 years	192
	7 years	547
Exceeding	7 years	18

Fines to the amount of Rs. 16,732 were imposed by Courts of Session, as compared with Rs. 11,420 in the preceding year. The total realizations of the year amounted to Rs. 8,733 as compared with Rs. 3,259 in 1918. The compensation awarded to complainants during the year, out of fines realized was Rs. 370.

Jury trials.

118. The system of trial by jury prevails only in the districts of Patna, Bhagalpur and Muzaffarpur. The number of persons tried by jury during 1919 was 247 and the verdict of the jury was approved of in respect of 244 persons. The Sessions Judge of Patna disagreed with the verdict in one case involving two persons; and the Assistant Sessions Judge disagreed with the verdict in one case involving one person. In both cases reference was made to the High Court under section 307 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. These references, including one pending from the previous year, were disposed of during 1919. The High Court rejected the reference in one case; and in the two other cases, involving three persons, one person was acquitted, one was sentenced to transportation for life, and one was sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for five years.

Trial by Assessors.

119. The number of persons tried with the aid of Assessors was 1,291. In the cases of 885 persons, the Sessions Judge concurred with the opinion of both assessors; in the cases of 157 he differed from the opinion of one; and in the cases of 249 he differed from the opinion of both. The corresponding figures for 1918 were 1,018, 649, 215 and 154, respectively.

Duration of cases.

120. The average duration of Sessions trials, from the date of commitment to the date of decision, was 46·7 days as compared with 49·03 days in 1918. The duration of cases was specially high in the districts of Manbhum (69·6), Purnea (53·5), Sambalpur (52·5) and Muzaffarpur (49·5). There was an appreciable decrease in Saran from 82·1 days to 44·6 days, and in Sambalpur from 90 days to 52·5 days.

Witnesses.

121. The number of witnesses in attendance before the Courts of Session was 9,200. Of these 6,361 were examined and 2,839 discharged without examination.

In 1918, the corresponding figures were 8,009, 5,752 and 2,257, respectively. Of the total number in attendance, 4,676 (50·8 per cent) were discharged on the first day, 2,258 (24·6 per cent) on the second day, 1,219 (13·2 per cent) on the third day and 1,047 (11·4 per cent) after the third day. The percentages for the previous year were 49·08, 29·3, 12·4 and 9·2, respectively.

The amount paid to witnesses on account of the expenses incurred in attending Sessions trials was Rs. 17,360, as compared with Rs. 15,034 in 1918.

Appellate Jurisdiction.

I.—High Court.

122. At the end of 1918, 14 appeals were pending before the High Court (including the Circuit Court of Cuttack) from the sentences or orders of Criminal Courts. Two hundred and forty-nine appeals were preferred during the year and 252 decided, while 11 remained pending at the close of the year. **Appeals.**

Two hundred and forty-six of these appeals were against sentences passed by Courts of Session; and two were against sentences passed by Magistrates acting under section 34 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. In addition, there was one appeal by the Local Government against an order of acquittal.

123. Of the 252 appeals decided during the year, the orders of the lower court were upheld in 196 instances, reversed in 19, and modified in 37. **Results of appeals.**

As regards the persons concerned in these appeals, the appeal by the Local Government involving nine persons was summarily dismissed under section 421 of the Code of Criminal Procedure; in admitted appeals, the sentences on 310 appellants were confirmed, on 55 reduced or altered, on 47 annulled, and in the cases of 89 the sentences were enhanced. The percentage of appellants who were entirely unsuccessful was 79·6 as against 70 in 1918.

II.—Appellate Courts Subordinate to the High Court.

124. There were 67 appeals pending before the Courts of Session at the beginning of the year. During the year 1,835 appeals were preferred. Of these, 1,781 were decided and 121 were pending at the close of the year. The number of appeals preferred to Sessions Judges was 467 more than in 1918. **Sessions Courts.**

Three thousand,two hundred and seventy-three persons were concerned in the appeals decided by Sessions Judges during 1919. The appeals of 1,146 of these, or 35·01 per cent. were summarily dismissed; 906 appellants, or 42·6 per cent, whose appeals were admitted, were altogether unsuccessful; 449, or 21·1 per cent, obtained a reduction or alteration of sentence; 749, or 35·2 per cent, were acquitted; and in the cases of 21, or 1 per cent, of the appellants, a new trial or further inquiry was ordered.

125. In the Courts of Magistrates there were 92 appeals pending at the beginning of the year. During the year, 1,956 appeals were preferred; of these 1,929 were decided, and 119 were pending at the close of the year. The number preferred was 396 more than in 1918. **Magistrates' Courts.**

The number of persons whose appeals were decided by Courts of Magistrates was 3,662. The appeals of 764 were summarily dismissed; and the sentences on 1,393, whose appeals were admitted, were confirmed. The sentence on one person was enhanced. Two thousand, one hundred and fifty-eight appellants, or 58·9 per cent, were therefore wholly unsuccesful. Of the remainder, 422 appellants, or 11·5 per cent, obtained a modification of the sentences passed on them, and 985 or 26·9 per cent, were acquitted. In the cases of 60 appellants, a new trial or further inquiry was ordered. These results are less favourable to appellants than in the previous year.

Superintendence, Reference and Revision.

I.—High Court.

126. Eight references under section 374 of the Code of Criminal Procedure for confirmation of the sentence of death were made to the High Court during 1919, and one was pending from the previous year. All the references were decided during the year. Out of 13 persons concerned in these references, the **References under sections 215, 341 and 374 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.**

death sentence on four persons was confirmed, in the cases of two persons the sentence was commuted to transportation for life, and the remaining seven persons were acquitted.

Two references under section 341 of the Code of Criminal Procedure were received and disposed of during the year. One case was remanded for retrial; and in the other case, the accused was sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for six months. One reference under section 215 of the Code of Criminal Procedure was received and disposed of during the year. The High Court quashed the commitment.

Revision.

127. During the year, 84 cases were reported for the orders of the High Court by Sessions Judges and District Magistrates under section 438 of the Code of Criminal Procedure; and 4 were pending at the opening of the year. Of these 85 were decided and 3 remained pending. The number reported was 22 more than in 1918. In 42 cases the orders sent up for revision were set aside, or the proceedings quashed, and in 17 a new trial was ordered. Sentences were reduced or altered in 14, and enhanced in five cases. In the remaining seven cases the High Court declined to interfere.

Orders were passed under section 435 of the Code of Criminal Procedure in 465 cases, a decrease of 15 from the figures of the previous year. All these cases came before the High Court on application made to it.

Two hundred and thirty-three applications for the issue of rules were rejected. Of the 232 rules issued, 54 were finally discharged; 71 were made absolute in their entirety; in one case the sentence was enhanced; the orders complained of were modified in 64 cases; in 8 cases the proceedings were quashed; and in 34 cases new trial or further inquiry was ordered. The figures for the preceding year were 280 applications rejected, 200 rules issued, 66 discharged, and 22 made absolute.

Applications for transfer.

128. Forty-nine applications under section 526 of the Code of Criminal Procedure for transfer of cases from one Court or district to another were made in 1919 and one was pending from the previous year. Fifty were dealt with, of which 12 were summarily rejected. In 38 cases rules were issued, with the result that transfers were granted in 25 cases, refused in 12 cases, and in one case the application was allowed to be withdrawn. In the preceding year there were 33 applications, in which 22 rules issued, of which 21 were granted and one refused.

II.—Courts Subordinate to the High Court.

Sessions Courts.

129. The cases of 2,281 persons were decided on revision by Courts of Sessions during the year. These include the cases both of accused persons who themselves applied for revision of the orders passed on them in the Courts of Magistrates, and of accused persons against whom such applications were made by complainants. The number was 163 more than in 1918. The applications of 1,048 persons were rejected; and as regards 506, the orders of the Lower Court were confirmed. Orders passed in the cases of 25 persons were reversed, and in the cases of two persons proceedings were quashed. In the cases of 566 persons new trials or further inquiries were directed; and the cases of 134 persons were referred to the High Court.

Magistrates' Courts.

130. The cases of 2,037 accused persons, who applied for revision, or against whom applications were made by complainants, came before District Magistrates. The number was 15 more than in 1918. The applications of 780 persons were rejected; and in the cases of 590 persons the original sentence or order was upheld. Sentences or orders affecting 51 persons were modified, and those affecting 210 were reversed. In the cases of nine persons proceedings were quashed; and in those of 352 persons new trials or further inquiries were directed. The cases of 45 persons were referred to the High Court.

III.—General.

Trial of European British subjects.

131. One European British subject was committed to and tried by the High Court. The jury returned an unanimous verdict of "not guilty" and the accused was acquitted.

The cases of 8 European British subjects were decided during the year by Magistrates, against 7 in the preceding year. Two of these persons claimed to be tried by a mixed jury. Of the accused persons, 6 were convicted and 2 acquitted or discharged. The convictions were in one case for an offence affecting human life, in one case for criminal force and assault, in two cases for cheating, and in the remaining two cases for offences under "Special and Local Laws".

132. The receipts were Rs. 6,42,537. Of this amount Rs. 2,28,831 were fines; Rs. 75,214 process fees; Rs. 94,536 copying and comparing fees; Rs. 1,64,111 Court-fee stamp receipts other than the above; while Rs. 79,845 were miscellaneous receipts. Receipts and charges.

Debiting, as usual, to the administration of Criminal Justice a portion of the salaries of Judicial Officers proportionate to the time which their returns show them to have devoted to criminal work, the total charges for the year amounted to Rs. 12,49,183. Of this amount Rs. 7,58,115 were for the salaries of Judicial Officers; Rs. 78,261 for fixed and temporary copying establishments; Rs. 54,890 for process-servers; Rs. 1,95,397 for other establishments and Rs. 1,62,520 for contingencies and refunds. The receipts were more than those of 1918 by Rs. 44,056 and the charges less by Rs. 4,778.

Criminal Justice in Scheduled Districts.

133. The number of cases brought to trial in the scheduled districts of the Santal Parganas and Angul (including the Khondmals) was 6,172 against 6,285 in the previous year, and the disposals amounted to 5,954 as against 6,083 in the year 1918. Out of 10,401 persons under trial including those awaiting trial from the previous year 4,799 were acquitted or discharged and 5,162 convicted. Of the cases brought to trial 498 were for criminal force and assault, 1,397 for theft, 625 criminal trespass, and 1,906 for offiences under special and local laws. The punishment of whipping was inflicted in 149 cases against 22 in the previous year. The total number of appellants and applicants for revision was 509 of whom 85 were wholly or partly successful. Santal Parganas and Angul.

Jails.

134. The daily average number of prisoners convicted and under trial was 9,763 against 9,200 in the previous year. One thousand, six hundred and twenty convicts were released in connection with the peace celebration as well as 748 Bakrid riot prisoners. General condition of Prisoners.

The death rate among prisoners fell from 63·4 to 43·6 per mile during the year 19 9, but is still unsatisfactory. The cause assigned is the influx of a large number of prisoners in poor health owing to the prevailing scarcity and the consequent overcrowding of the jails. Epidemics were also prevalent during the year. The largest mortality was in the Hazaribagh Central Jail. It is reported that insufficient attention was paid to sanitation and water-supply in this jail. The condition of the jail has since improved. Special efforts were made to combat dysentery in accordance with the recommendations of Major Cunningham based on his investigations in Bengal. The results were particularly successful in the Bhagalpur Central Jail, where cases fell from 222 in the first half of the year to 59 in the second half. The incidence and mortality from tuberculosis greatly decreased during the year under report. More than half of the jails were again affected by influenza.

135. The Monghyr Juvenile Jail is reported to have worked satisfactorily. The average daily number of prisoners in this jail was 174 against 163 in 1918. Juvenile Jail.

136. The average cost of the maintenance and guarding of prisoners rose from Rs. 112-7-0 to Rs. 142-1-0 while the average cash earnings fell from Rs. 12-9-0 to Rs. 6-9-0. The decrease is attributed to the high cost of manufacture and the difficulty of finding sufficient remunerative work for the prisoners admitted. Establishment.

The conduct of the warder guards was better than in the previous year and their pay has been increased. The service is still, however, unpopular.

Civil Justice.

Jurisdiction.

137. The following changes took place in the personnel of the Puisne Judges of the High Court during the year 1919 :—

(1) Mr. P. C. Manuk, who had been acting as a Judge from the 23rd October 1918, in the vacancy caused by the appointment of the Hon'ble Sir Saiyid Ali Imam as a member of the Bihar and Orissa Executive Council, was succeeded by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. R. Das, who was permanently appointed to the vacancy, from the 12th February 1919, from which date Sir Saiyid Ali Imam resigned.

(2) The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Roe went on combined leave from the 2nd May 1919, and Mr. L. C. Adami was appointed to act in his place. Mr. Justice Roe having resigned the service from the 12th November 1919, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Adami was confirmed in his place from that date.

(3) The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mullick went on privilege leave from the 28th July, until the annual vacation and was on deputation to Lahore on special duty from the 12th November up to the end of the year. Mr. H. F. E. B. Foster acted during the period of absence of the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mullick.

(4) The Court suffered a severe loss by the death under tragic circumstances of the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Atkinson who died as the result of an accident whilst travelling by train on the night of the 16th November 1919, when returning from England after the annual vacation. Mr. Sultan Ahmad was appointed to act in the vacancy from the 9th December 1919.

Judicial Staff.

138. The permanent Civil Judicial staff subordinate to the High Court consisted of 12 District and Sessions Judges, 24 Subordinate Judges, and 68 Munsifs. In addition to these the following temporary appointments were made :—

(*a*) The Additional District and Sessions Judge sanctioned for Muzaffarpur from the 18th July 1918 continued during 1919 and a second Additional District and Sessions Judge was also sanctioned for six months but only held office from the 13th February to the 8th March 1919.

(*b*) The Additional Subordinate Judge of Bhagalpur, who was appointed from the 5th September 1918, continued there till the 17th April 1919.

(*c*) An Additional Subordinate Judge worked in Darbhanga from the 24th February 1919 to the end of the year.

(*d*) An Additional Subordinate Judge was employed in Gaya from the 22nd April till the end of the year.

(*e*) A second Additional Subordinate Judge was also employed in Gaya from the 16th June to the 2nd July.

(*f*) An Additional Subordinate Judge was sanctioned for Palamau for three months ; and the officer appointed worked there from the 27th October to the 1st November and again from the 11th December to the end of the year.

Additional Munsifs were also employed for various periods at Buxar, Arrah, Sassaram, Muzaffarpur, Motihari, Araria and Cuttack.

The Munsif's court at Bettiah, which was created experimentally from the 17th September 1918, continued during the whole of the year. A permanent Munsif's court has now been sanctioned for Bettiah.

ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

139. The number of original suits instituted in the province was 1,70,278, an increase of 5,214 from that of the previous year. The figures of institutions for the last four years are as follows:— Original suits instituted.

1915	1,63,529
1916	1,69,340
1917	1,73,235
1918	1,65,064

There was an increase in 1919 in all districts, except in Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Bhagalpur, Monghyr and Chota Nagpur. The increase was most marked in Saran (4,773), Patna (3,026) and Cuttack (1,082). The statistics of institutions for the present year probably indicate that the decrease in 1918 was only temporary.

Of the 170,278 suits instituted, 50,463 were for money or moveables, 100,173 were rent suits, and 19,642 were title and other suits, showing an increase of 2·9, 2·4 and 8·07 per cent, respectively, in comparison with the corresponding figures of the previous year. The value of the suits instituted amounted to Rs. 6,90,85,146, an increase of Rs. 2,61,80,716 over the figures of the previous year.

140. The following table shows in order the number of institutions in each district:— Local distribution.

(1) Muzaffarpur	23,853
(2) Purnea	20,786
(3) Saran	18,402
(4) Cuttack	17,941
(5) Darbhanga	16,890
(6) Shahabad	14,217
(7) Monghyr	13,472
(8) Patna	13,399
(9) Bhagalpur	13,000
(10) Gaya	7,051
(11) Manbhum-Sambalpur	6,948
(12) Chota Nagpur	4,319

The institution of money suits rose in eight districts and fell in four. The increase in Cuttack (663) which was the highest in the Province was due to the prevalence of petty money-lending in Orissa. The variations in the other districts are slight and are probably due to natural fluctuations.

There was a marked increase in the institution of rent suits in Saran (3,882), Patna, (2,737) and Gaya (964). The increase in Saran is due to the revisional Survey and Settlement operations. The increase in Patna has not been explained, but is possibly due to a growing sense of the value of the record-of-rights. In Gaya the increase was largely in suits for produce rent, which is attributed to friction arising out of commutation proceedings under section 40 of the Bengal Tenancy Act. Suits for enhancement of rent increased remarkably in the district of Muzaffarpur, where landlords are said to have been anxious to have their rents enhanced before the impending revisional Settlement operations. The number of rent suits instituted fell in four districts, viz., Muzaffarpur (3,641), Bhagalpur (1,388), Darbhanga (803) and Monghyr (446). The decrease in Muzaffarpur has occurred chiefly in the Munsif's Court at Motihari in Champaran, and is partly to be attributed to the fact that four large indigo concerns were allowed, under section 158-A of the Bengal Tenancy Act, to realize arrears of rent by the certificate procedure.

The institution of title suits rose in nine districts and fell in three. The increase was most marked in Saran (693), Cuttack (419) and Muzaffarpur (310). The revisional Survey operations are said to be responsible for the increase in the districts of Saran and Muzaffarpur.

Nature of suits instituted.

141. The following table shows that the majority of suits instituted were as usual, under Rs. 50 in value :—

		Suits for money and moveables.	Suits under the Rent Law	Title and other suits.
	Rs.			
Not exceeding ...	10 ...	2,149	26,378	655
	50 ...	18,036	45,915	3,366
	100 ...	12,025	14,288	2,916
	500 ...	15,484	12,155	7,696
Exceeding Rs. 500 or value not stated ...		2,769	1,457	5,009
Total ...		50,463	1,00,173	19,642

Title suits represented in value 77·6 per cent of the whole litigation of the province. Out of the total number classed as title suits, 50·9 per cent were for immoveable property; 34·4 per cent were mortgage suits; and 5·1 per cent were for specific relief.

Number of suits instituted and disposed of.

142. The number of suits instituted (170,278) during the year, added to the number pending from the last year (90,735) and to the number received on remand or review during the year (3,483) gives a total of 264,496 suits for disposal. This is an increase of 5,580 over the figures of the previous year. The number of suits disposed of was 178,389, showing an increase of 10,206 over the figures for 1918. The following table shows the disposals of contested and uncontested suits by Subordinate Judges and Munsifs :—

		Contested.			Uncontested.				Average disposals.			Percentage of contested disposals to total decided.	
		Under ordinary procedure.	Under Small Cause Court powers.	Total.	Under ordinary procedure.	Under Small Cause Court powers.	Total.	Total of columns 4 and 7.	Contested.	Uncontested.	Total.	Under ordinary procedure.	Under Small Cause Court powers.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
By Subordinate Judges	1918	1,510	1,438	2,948	2,177	6,630	8,807	11,755	116	345	461	12·8	12·2
	1919	1,971	1,351	3,322	2,289	5,361	7,670	10,992	127·8	295	422·8	17·9	12·3
By Munsifs	1918	24,008	2,404	26,412	1,11,394	13,506	129,900	156,312	380	1,869	2,249	15·4	1·6
	1919	23,134	2,384	25,518	1,22,839	18,894	141,733	167,251	357·7	1,986·9	2,344·6	13·8	1·4

As compared with the previous year, the disposals increased in all districts except Purnea, Manbhum-Sambalpur, Saran and Chota Nagpur. The increase was most marked in Darbhanga (2,613) and Monghyr (2,137). Of the total number of suits decided, 1,67,251 were disposed of by Munsifs, of which about one-eighth were dealt with under Small Cause Court procedure, 10,992 by Subordinate Judges, 72 by the Small Cause Court Judge of Dinapore, and 74 by District and Additional District Judges.

143. The following table shows the proportion of contested and uncontested suits to the total number of suits disposed of. It also shows the number of cases in which the plaintiffs were successful in whole or in part and of cases in which the plaintiffs were unsuccessful. There was little variation as compared with the previous year. Results of Suits.

	Contested.			Uncontested.								Plaintiffs wholly or partly successful.	Plaintiffs unsuccessful.	Retrial.		
	For plaintiff.	For defendant.	Total.	Dismissed.	Decreed.	Compromised.	Decreed on confession.	Dismissed for default, etc.	Withdrawn with leave.	Rejected.	Total.			Applications granted.	Applications rejected.	Percentage of successful Applications.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Number of suits	23,514	5,366	28,880	1,150	86,962	27,099	2,070	30,027	1,710	521	149,509	112,546	38,774	2,918	5,300	35
Percentage with reference to total number of cases disposed of (178,389) in 1919.	13·18	30·06	16·19	·64	48·74	15·17	1 16	16·83	·95	·29	83·81	63·09	21·73	...	...	...
Number of suits	24,162	4,795	28,957	708	78,184	26,177	1,643	29,394	2,226	445	138,777	104,338	37,68	3,349	5,593	37·45
Percentage with reference to total number of cases disposed of (168,183) in 1918.	14·36	2·85	17·21	·42	46·48	15·56	·96	17·47	1·32	·26	82·51	62·4	22·4	...	...	...

Of the 28,880 suits decided after contest, 23,514 or 81·4 per cent resulted in favour of plaintiffs and 5,366 or 18·6 per cent in favour of defendants.

144. The following table gives the average duration of contested and uncontested suits disposed of by the various grades of courts. The variations from the previous year are slight:— Average duration of Suits.

	District Judges.		Subordinate Judges.		Munsifs.		Small Cause Court Judges.	
	1919.	1918.	1919.	1918.	1919.	1918.	1919.	1918.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Days.		Days.		Days.		Days.	
Under ordinary procedure. Contested	206	293	444	424	222	232	...	...
Under ordinary procedure. Uncontested	207	215	295	310	121	139	...	...
Under Small Cause Court procedure. Contested...	...	...	78	93	77	85	32	34
Under Small Cause Court procedure. Uncontested	...	...	61	67	53	58	32	35

The number of suits pending at the close of the year fell from 90,735 in 1918 to 86,107, and the year-old suits from 2,187 to 1,254. Of these 412 were pending in the courts of Munsifs and 842 in the courts of District and Subordinate Judges. The figures are heaviest in the districts of Gaya (243), Shahabad (211) and Darbhanga (205).

Execution Proceedings.

145. There were 28,808 applications for execution of decrees pending from the previous year ; and 1,07,998 applications were made during the year. Full satisfaction was obtained in 53,576 and partial satisfaction in 9,268 cases. In 41,651 cases the proceedings were returned as wholly infructuous, while 29,497 remained pending at the close of the year. The proportion of infructuous proceedings was, as usual, highest in Cuttack (70). The next highest percentages were in Manbhum-Sambalpur (59·7) and in Chota Nagpur (58·3). The total amount realized in courts other than Small Cause Courts was Rs. 1,10,32,210. Coercive measures employed were :—arrest of judgment-debtors in 872 cases ; sale of movable and immovable property in 1,103 and 20,148 cases respectively; and attachment of property, followed by its release, in 26,328 cases. Possession of immovable property was given in 2,084 cases of which the largest number was in the district of Manbhum-Sambalpur (350). The number of infructuous applications in execution is receiving the special attention of Inspecting Judges.

Miscellaneous Cases.

146. Twenty-four thousand, seven hundred and fifty-eight cases of a judicial nature other than suits and execution proceedings were instituted, 24,824 were disposed of and 5,152 were left pending. Of the cases disposed of 2,346 were withdrawn, compromised or decreed on confession, 6,109 were decided *exparte* and 7,974 were contested. Of the total number of applications disposed of after contest, 51·1 per cent were granted. Of the pending cases only 13 were more than a year old.

The number of miscellaneous cases of a non-judicial nature instituted and disposed of was 3,287 and 3,359 respectively. The number of applications for deposit of rent was highest in Muzaffarpur (606), Patna (199) and Saran (157). The figures in Muzaffarpur, though still high, are lower than last year's (825).

Appellate Jurisdiction.

I—Appeals in the High Court.

Appeals from Subordinate Courts.

147. The following table gives the number of appeals from subordinate Courts instituted and decided in the High Court during 1919. It shows an increase of 36 in the number of appeals pending at the end of the year. The disposals in 1917 and 1918 were 2,668 and 1,421 appeals respectively. The pending file at the close of 1917 was 1,735.

	Pending at the close of 1918.	Preferred.	Decided.	Pending at the end of 1919.
1	2	3	4	5
First appeals—				
From decrees ...	516	270	194	592
From orders ...	138	255	188	205
Second appeals—				
From decrees ...	1,737	1,249	1,379	1,607
From orders ...	32	101	78	55
Total ...	2,423	1,875	1,839	2,459

Of the 194 appeals from original decrees decided during the year, 68 were uncontested, being dismissed for default, or otherwise not prosecuted. Of those decided after contest, in 73 cases the decrees of the lower courts were confirmed, in 31 cases reversed, in 17 modified, while five cases were remanded.

Of 1,379 appeals from appellate decrees of District Judges and Subordinate Judges which were decided, 311 were summarily rejected, 59 were compromised, 12 were withdrawn, and 12 were dismissed for default; while of the remainder 633 decrees were confirmed, 159 reversed, 39 modified and 114 cases were remanded.

Of 266 appeals from orders decided, 56 were summarily rejected, 36 were uncontested, being dismissed for default or otherwise not prosecuted, and 174 were decided after trial. Of the latter, 116 orders were confirmed; 43 reversed; in four cases the order was varied; and eleven cases were remanded.

II—Appellate Courts Subordinate to the High Court.

148. 8,132 appeals, 593 more than in 1918, were instituted. Appeals were preferred in 34·2 per cent. of appealable cases. The highest percentages were in Saran (41·1) and Shahabad (40·8) and the lowest were in Monghyr (23·3), Bhagalpur (16·8) and Purnea (16·8). 7,607 appeals, 804 less than in 1918, were disposed of, of which 5,594 were decided by District and Additional District Judges and 2,013 by Subordinate Judges. The decrease was most marked in Saran (634), Monghyr (178) and Manbhum-Sambalpur (129). The decrease in Saran is attributed by the District Judge to his inability to devote more time to Civil appeals in consequence of an increase in criminal work. 5,544 appeals were pending at the end of the year, or 775 more than at the end of 1918. There has been an increase from 95 to 130 in the number of appeals pending more than a year, the largest number being in Muzaffarpur (50), Chota Nagpur (48), and Saran (21). **Appeals instituted.**

149. In 4,016 cases, or 52·8 per cent. of the whole, the judgment of the lower court was affirmed; in 1,157 cases or 15·2 per cent. it was modified; and in 1,180 or 15·5 per cent. it was reversed. These percentages are slightly in excess of those in the preceeding year. 356 appeals or 4·7 per cent. were remanded and 898 or 11·8 per cent. were either not prosecuted, or were dismissed for default. **Result of appeals.**

General.

150. The receipts of the Civil Courts in Bihar and Orissa for the year amounted to Rs. 40,18,273, an increase of Rs. 3,61,495 over those of the previous year, and the charges to Rs. 15,49,466, an increase of Rs. 1,42,314 compared with those of 1918. Including the amount of Rs. 31,954 realized on account of duty on probates, etc., there was a profit to the Government from civil litigation of Rs. 25,00,761. The details of the receipts and charges are as follows:— **Receipts and charges.**

Receipts.				Charges.			
1				2			
			Rs.				Rs
In stamps...	Process fees	...	7,11,230	Salaries of Judicial Officers		...	5,86,048
	Other fees	...	30,40,992	Establishment	Process servers	...	2,23,887
In cash or special stamps.	Fines	...	889		Others	...	4,94,790
	Copying and comparing fees.		1,97,271	Copyists' fees		...	1,57,529
	Other receipts	...	67,791	Contingencies and refund		...	87,212
	Total	...	40,18,273	Total		...	15,49,466

Inspections.

151. The Courts of 11 Subordinate Judges and 37 Munsifs were inspected by District Judges. Subordinate Judges and Munsifs also inspected their respective offices and submitted their reports to the District Judges. It is believed that this practice has resulted in improvement in the administrative work of Judicial offices.

The Judge-in-charge of the English Department inspected the Civil Courts at Purulia, Dhanbad, Shahabad, and Daltonganj, and the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Roe inspected the Civil Courts at Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, Monghyr and Gaya.

Civil Justice in Scheduled District.

152. The total number of suits instituted during the year in the Civil Courts in the Scheduled districts of the Santal Parganas and Angul (including the Khondmals) was 15,222 against 14,045 in the previous year. Of these 7,057 were suits for money and moveable property, 7,164 rent suits, and 701 title and other suits. Money and rent suits increased by 0·22 per cent and 21·24 per cent respectively. Title suits decreased by 17·24 per cent. The number of cases disposed of amounted to 148,88 leaving 2,742 pending at the close of the year. Four hundred and fifty-five appeals from decrees were filed and 415 disposed of. Out of 164 miscellaneous appeals 145 were disposed of.

Registration.

[Triennial Report on the working of the Registration Department in Bihar and Orissa during the three years ending the 31st December 1919.].

General.

153. The number of permanent registration offices remained at 134.

During the three years 1917-19 only eight new offices were constructed, owing to the economy imposed by war conditions. The question of providing houses for Sub-Registrars in places were accommodation is unsatisfactory is receiving consideration. The question of improving the pay of the service is being considered with the general proposals for increase of pay of non-gazetted officers.

New rules have been framed for the destruction of documents and record under the Destruction of Records Act (V of 1917). The table of fees prepared in pursuance of section 78 of the Registration Act has been revised, and statutory rules under the Act have been also revised. The practice of keeping at rural Registry offices copies of the index of documents has been abandoned. This has caused no inconvenience to the public, while securing a considerable economy both in clerical work and in the cost of providing record-room space in the rural offices.

Statistics.

154. The total number of registrations of documents increased by 46·9 per cent from 466,8:0 in 1918 to 686,099 in 1919. This increase which is general is ascribed to the abnormal rise in prices following on the failure of crops. In Shahabad the increase is partly attributed to investment in land by men returning from military service, and in Singhbhum to perpetual leases executed by raiyats abandoning their holdings for the tea gardens or for Jamshedpur and other industrial centres. Receipts rose from Rs. 6,35,144 to Rs. 9,01,139 and expenditure from Rs. 3,84,311 to Rs. 4,47,573.

The number of documents registered during the three years 1917-19 was 9·6 per cent. more than the number registered during the previous three years. The aggregate receipts and expenditure during the three years rose by 10·4 and 7·2 per cent respectively and the surplus by 14·2 per cent. The aggregate value of immovable property affected by the documents registered during the three years 1917-19 was Rs. 9,95,67,979, Rs. 8,90,77,073 and Rs. 13,16,44,149 respectively.

The percentage of documents registered on the day of presentation rose to 77·12 per cent or 3 per cent more than in the previous triennial period. The percentage delivered on the day of presentation has increased from 44 to 52, but there is still room for improvement in this respect. The diminution in the

number of prosecutions under section 83 of the Registration Act appears to indicate that the taking of thumb impressions acts as a check on false personation and fraud. The standard of inspection has been maintained.

Working of the Indian Companies Act, VII of 1913.

155. The total number of companies, limited by shares, working at the close of the year under report, was 39 against 33 at the beginning of the year; the aggregate authorised and paid-up capitals increased from Rs. 45,46,200 and Rs. 15,32,524, at the beginning of the year to Rs. 1,07,31,200 and Rs. 16,01,746, respectively at its close. The number of companies limited by guarantee at the close of the year under report was eight, as in the preceding year.

During the year under report, six public and three private companies, limited by shares, were registered and incorporated. The public companies were formed to conduct the following business:—(1) Banking and money-lending, (2) newspapers, (3) motor service, (4) general merchants and contractors, (5) oil mills, (6) trade in iron; the last is the biggest enterprise registered in this province having an authorised capital of Rs. 50,00,000. Of the three private companies, two are banking and loan companies and one is a flour mill. The total authorised capital of these nine companies is Rs. 59,35,000.

No new company, limited by guarantee, was registered during the year. In the case of the Bankipore Club, registered in April 1916, as a company limited by guarantee, the Local Government granted in August 1919 a license under section 26 of the Indian Companies Act, VII of 1913, for the registration of the said club with limited liability without the addition of the word "Limited" to its name.

During the year under report, documents under section 277 of the Act in the matter of another foreign company, viz., the Burma Mines, Limited, incorporated in England, which has a place of business at Jamshedpur in this Province, were registered in the office of the Registrar, Joint Stock Companies, Bihar and Orissa; the number of foreign companies which have places of business in this province were, therefore, twenty-one at the close of the year.

Compliance with the provisions of law.

156. The reports of the District Officers who were requested to make enquiries in the matter, show that the provisions of section 136 of the Act were complied with during the year by the limited banking and other companies working in their districts to which the provisions of the section apply.

In the matter of the National Company Sundri, Limited, at Siwan in the district of Saran, the balance sheet for the year ending 31st December 1918 and the annual list of members and summary of capital were not filed in the office of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, Bihar and Orissa; it also appeared that no general meeting of shareholders was held during the year 1919, as required by section 76 of the Act. The District Magistrate of Saran was therefore requested to call on the Managing Director of the company to show cause why he should not be prosecuted. From the explanation submitted it was clear that the company had been doing no work for nearly two years on account of financial trouble, and it could not even afford to pay for an auditor; the Managing Director was also under the impression that it would not be correct to hold an annual meeting without being able to place audited accounts before the members. As recommended by the District Magistrate, the cause shown was accepted and the matter was dropped. The company has since been wound up voluntarily.

Balance-sheets are now audited only by the auditors who are authorised to act as such under section 144 of the Act. The balance sheet of one company, viz., the Jharia Club, Limited, for the year ending 31st December 1918 was not audited by an authorised auditor, and so was returned for re-audit by a duly authorised auditor. The matter was not finally disposed of at the close of the year.

During the year seven provisional restricted certificates have been granted by the Local Government; besides these there are two auditors who hold permanent restricted certificates. Intimation was also received in the Office of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, Bihar and Orissa, of the

grant by other Local Governments of unrestricted certificates entitling the holders thereof to act as auditors of companies throughout British India; there were 32 holders of such certificates at the end of the year.

The Government of India having finally accepted the scheme for the utilisation of the Sydenham College of Commerce and Economics, Bombay, as a central examining body for conducting examinations at various centres and for awarding a diploma in accountancy which could be recognised as a basis for the issue of auditors' certificates under the Indian Companies Act, 1913, the Life Indian Assurance Companies Act, 1912, and the Provident Insurance Societies Act, 1912, the rules for the grant of auditors' certificates prescribed by the Local Government under sub-section (2) of section 144 of the Act were revised on the basis of the procedure laid down by the Government of India, and revised rules were published on the 1st March 1920.

Liquidation.

157. Three companies, limited by shares, viz., Mithila-Mihir Syndicate Limited, a public company, and Darbhanga Mills, Limited, and the Bari-ghat Milling Company, Limited, which were private companies, ceased to work during the year under report: the last two were voluntarily wound up while the first stopped business by a resolution passed in a general meeting by which all its assets and liabilities with the good-will were transferred to one person. The company has since the close of the year been struck off the register under section 247 of the Indian Companies Act, 1913. The aggregate authorised and paid-up capitals of these three companies were Rs. 2,10,000 and Rs. 42,534 respectively.

In the case of two companies, viz., the India Prospecting Company, Limited, and Lee and Benson, Limited, which went into liquidation in December 1914 and October 1915, respectively, the affairs were fully wound up and the final returns under section 217 were filled by the liquidators during the year.

Capital.

158. One company, viz., the Ambler's Slate and Stone Company, Limited, increased its authorised capital from Rs. 2,00,000 to Rs. 6,00,000 under a license granted by the Government of India under the Indian Companies Restriction Act, 1918 (XII of 1918): the paid-up capital of this company was also increased during the year by Rs. 86,000. Three other companies increased their paid-up capital, the total increase aggregating Rs. 1,11,756. There was no reduction of capital.

Working of Act XXI of 1860.

159. During the year, two new societies were registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, viz.:—

(1) "The Guzrati Literary Society, Jharia," the objects of which are the diffusion of knowledge and education to the Guzrati people in the Jharia Coalfield by establishing schools, colleges, libraries, etc.

(2) "The Raj Narain Bose Public Library and Free Reading Room, Deoghar," started with the object of promoting literary culture and knowledge by establishing a library, etc. There were altogether 18 societies registered under the Act at the end of the year.

Working of Acts V and VI of 1912.

160. No Life Assurance Companies or Provident Insurance Societies were registered in this Province during the year.

Revised rules under the Indian Life Assurance Companies Act, 1912, in supersession of those hitherto in force, were framed by the Government of India and published on the 17th January 1920.

Fees.

161. Fees realized under the Acts during the year amounted to Rs. 2,831 as compared with Rs. 941 in the year 1918-19.

The increase in receipts during the year under report is due to the fact that a greater number of companies with larger share capital was registered during the year.

Working of the Brahmo Marriage Act, III of 1872.

162. Under the Brahmo Marriage Act, III of 1872, seven marriages were registered during the year against ten in 1918-19. No widow was remarried during the year.

163. Act I (B. C) of 1876 was in force in seven districts in the Province. One new office was opened at Lakhiserai in the district of Monghyr during the year which closed with a total of thirty-eight offices against thirty-seven in the previous year. The number of ceremonies registered increased from 377 to 412. The total receipts of the Qazi Registrars remained almost the same viz., Rs. 670-7-0 against Rs. 671-10-0 in the previous year. Working of the Muhammadan Marriage Registration Act and Qazis' Act.

Municipalities.

[The reports from the Commissioners of Divisions on the working of Municipalities in Bihar and Orissa during the year 1919-20.]

Part I.

164. One new municipaliity was established during the year under report at Dhanbad in the district of Manbhum. So far as the elective franchise is concerned there was no change in the status of the Municipalities. Out of 57 municipalities 46 enjoy the right of electing their own Chairmen and in 49 two-thirds of the Commissioners are elected. The number of elected non-official Chairmen was 25 as against 17 in the previous year, and that of nominated non-official Chairmen 3 as compared with 2 in 1918-19. Besides the instructions prohibiting the nomination of District and Subdivisional Officers as Municipal Commissioners in municipalities which possess the right to elect their Chairmen, all officials, who are Municipal Commissioners, are now directed to refrain from voting on questions regarding the election or nomination of officials as Chairmen. Number and constitution of municipalities.

The total number of Commissioners on Municipal Boards rose from 795 to 817 owing to the creation of the Dhanbad Municipality and increase in the number of Commissioners of the Giridih Municipality. Of these 135 sat *ex-officio*, 198 were nominated and 484 elected. The proportions of officials to non-officials and of Europeans to Indians were 1:5 and 1:8 respectively.

165. General elections were held in the Municipalities of Bettiah, Samastipur, Monghyr, Jamalpur, Deoghar, Jajpur, Giridih, and Daltonganj. The elections were contested in all these municipalities except Samastipur and Jamalpur. In the majority of cases the percentage of votes recorded ranged between 60 and 80. Elections.

166. The Municipalities of Khagaul, Buxar, Revelganj, Chatra, and Jhalda failed to hold the statutory number of meetings. The greatest number of meetings were held by the Municipal Commissioners of Sitamarhi (28), Bhagalpur (23), Kishanganj (22) and Dhanbad (21), in all of which places meetings were adjourned or proved abortive for want of a quorum. Meetings.

There is again no great advance to be recorded in the standard of Municipal Administration. In Patna City the attitude of the Municipal Board is reported to be critical rather than constructive, with the result that meetings had frequently to be adjourned with half the business done. Time was exhausted in discussion of details and legal technicalities rather than in devising measures likely to lead to practical results. The Municipality is hampered by heavy charges on account of repayment of loan at a time when its income is barely sufficient to meet ordinary requirements ; while under the altered financial conditions it cannot be expected that Government grants will be available to the same extent as hitherto and the necessity for more adequate taxation, together with due economy in expenditure, is becoming paramount.

Lack of interest in municipal affairs was reported in the case of Dinapur Nizamat, Tikari, Arrah, Chapra, Darbhanga, Lalganj, Muzaffarpur, Forbesganj, Jajpur and Kendrapara Municipalities. The Hazaribagh and Chaibassa Municipalities are reported to have made a good start under their non-official chairmen.

Part II—Taxation.

167. The total receipts, including opening balances, amounted to Rs. 54,52,610 and the disbursements to Rs. 40,86,051 leaving a closing balance Assessment and Taxation.

of Rs. 13,66,559. The main items of income and expenditure during the past two years are compared below:—

	Income.		
	1918-19.	1919-20.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−).
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Opening balance	10,17,120	12,54,401	+2,37,281
Municipal rates and taxes	18,38,150	18,95,590	+57,440
Realization under special acts	46,871	47,921	+1,050
Revenue derived from Municipal property and powers apart from taxation.	2,44,686	2,81,878	+37,192
Grants and contributions	11,39,909	11,68,714	+28,805
Miscellaneous	89,905	72,868	−17,037
Extraordinary and debts	7,90,585	7,31,238	−59,347
Total	51,67,226	54,52,610	+2,85,384

	Expenditure.		
	1918-19.	1919-20.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−).
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
General administration and collection charges ...	1,98,657	2,60,973	+62,316
Public safety.	1,67,097	1,77,679	+10,582
Public health and convenience	26,26,719	25,93,624	−33,095
Public instruction	1,69,179	1,67,720	−1,459
Contributions	14,176	6,337	−7,839
Miscellaneous	1,40,995	2,50,907	+1,09,912
Extraordinary and debt	5,72,696	6,28,811	+56,115
Closing balance	12,77,707	13,66,559	+88,852
Total	51,67,226	54,52,610	+2,85,384

Income.

168. The income derived from local taxation was Rs. 18,95,590 as compared with Rs. 18,38,150 in the previous year. The increase was due to the revision of assessments and the creation of a new Municipality at Dhanbad in the district of Manbhum. The system of taxation was the same as in the year 1918-19. The revised assessment in the Giridih Municipality had to be reduced during the year under report on account of certain illegalities brought to light. The general revision of the assessment of the Monghyr Municipality which was completed during the year raised the demand by Rs. 20,572. A general

revision was made in certain wards of the Patna City Municipality and the demand was raised by Rs. 15,413. There was also a revision of assessment under section 108 of the Bengal Municipal Act in the Patna City, Khagaul and Gaya Municipalities, the demand in Patna City being raised by Rs. 8,482. The assessment of the Barh, Gaya, Daudnagar, Sasaram, Muzaffarpur, Lalganj, Dumka and Chaibassa Municipalities was also revised. A general revision was started at Bettiah, Hajipur and Darbhanga, but it could not be completed during the year. The demand of the Ranchi Municipality was raised by Rs. 2,322 on account of the assessment of new buildings. The increase in the rate of the tax on persons raised the income of the Jhalda Municipality by Rs. 1,394. Latrine fees were levied in the Lohardaga Municipality during the year under report. The Daltonganj Municipality raised the water rate from 5½ to 7½ per cent on the annual value of holdings. In the newly constituted Municipality at Dhanbad a personal tax at the rate of 1½ per cent on the annual income of the assessees and 7½ per cent on the annual value of the Government and other public holdings as also taxes on carriages and animals and cart registration fees were imposed. A water rate was imposed in Patna and the Patna City Municipality at the rate of 7½ per cent on the annual value of holdings to which house pipes are attached and of 4 per cent in the case of the holdings which are situated within a distance of 400 feet from a stand-post, and took effect from the 1st April 1920. The Commissioners of Hazaribagh decided to introduce the rate on holdings in place of the tax on persons with effect from 1st April 1921.

169. The percentage of total collections on current demands fell below 95 per cent in the Municipalities of Siwan (94·3), Cuttack (94·08), Jajpur (93·9), Ranchi (93·7), Forbesganj (93·36), Puri (93·2), Bihar (92·8), Monghyr (91·9), Hazaribagh (91·4), Jhalda (90·8), Buxar (89·9), Dumka (89·98), Motihari (86·9), Balasore (85·1), Dhanbad (80·01) and Giridih (66·6). The strikingly low percentage in Giridih was due to reduction of the current demand owing to illegalities discovered in the method of assessment. In Motihari the decline was due to the non-realization of demands from certain deceased owners of private holdings and from two rival claimants, who are fighting for possession in the civil court. In Balasore the collection was hindered by the bad year and by frequent illness among the staff. In the newly constituted Municipality at Dhanbad the assessment lists were drawn up in the first quarter and so no taxes could be levied till the second. The outstanding taxes were heaviest in Patna City (Rs. 31,048), Monghyr (Rs. 23,593) and Ranchi (Rs. 24,550). These Municipalities were also responsible for large arrears in the previous year. The Municipalities of Sitamarhi and Samastipur shew no outstanding balances, while the arrears in Khagaul (72), Bhabhua (1), Chapra (50), Lalganj (11), Madhubani (24), Colgong (29), Kendrapara (20), Chatra (87), Lohardaga (21) and Chakradharpur (80) are nominal. On the whole the results can be said to have been satisfactory. A high percentage of current demand was remitted in the Municipalities of Dhanbad (22·07), Raghunathpur (10·7), Balasore (7·2), Jajpur (6·3), Cuttack (5·9) and Darbhanga (5·1). At Dhanbad it was due to the inclusion of the arrears of the tax levied by the late Union Committee which proved to be irrecoverable or time-barred. In other cases no explanation has been furnished. Collections.

Part III—Accounts.

170. The total receipts of municipalities including opening balances amounted to Rs. 54,52,610 as compared with Rs. 51,07,226 in the previous year, the rise being mainly due to the increase in the income derived from the municipal rates and taxes (Rs. 57,440) and from the municipal properties and houses apart from taxation (Rs. 37,192). The disbursements during the year aggregated Rs. 40,86,052, showing an advance of Rs. 1,96,533 over the last year's figure. The percentage of general administration and collection charges on the total expenditure was heavy in the municipalities of Jhalda (23·7), Chakradharpur (20·3), Tikari (17·8), Khagaul (16·1), Jagadispur (14·5), Dhanbad (14·5), Lalganj (13·9), Revelganj (13·7), Dumraon (11·5), Bihar (10·7), Sambalpur (10·6), Kendrapara (10·1). Receipts.

Expenditure.

171. The expenditure under the heads "General Administration and Collection Charges," "Lighting", "Conservancy", "Charges on account of Health Officers andSanitary Inspectors", "Hospitals and Dispensaries", "Vaccination", "Markets and Slaughter-houses" and "Arboriculture, etc.," showed an increase over the last year's figures by Rs. 62,316, Rs. 9,148, Rs. 35,032, Rs. 6,142, Rs. 80,573, Rs. 3,480, Rs. 10,853 and Rs. 2,803, respectively. A large decrease of Rs. 1,52,529 under the head "Water supply" is due to decrease in capital outlay during the year.

Closing balances.

172. The total closing balances of municipalities rose from Rs. 12,77,707 to Rs. 13,66,558, the largest accumulations having taken place in Patna City (Rs. 2,50,349), Gaya (Rs. 1,19,592), Motihari (Rs. 77,805), Muzaffarpur (Rs. 1,42,571), Bhagalpur (Rs. 1,09,657) and Puri (Rs. 78,082). The bulk of the closing balances consist of unspent Government grants and other contributions for specific works. On the other hand the working balance in Darbhanga amounted to Rs. 6,460 against outstanding liabilities of Rs. 9,222. In Cuttack the amount of outstanding bills remaining unpaid at the close of the year was Rs. 16,387 while the closing balance amounted to Rs. 2,783.

Audit.

173. The last annual report on the working of the Local Audit Department shows that the liabilities exceeded the assets in the municipalities of Chapra, Jajpur, Balasore, Bhabhua and Raghunathpur. In Chapra the liabilities increased from Rs. 2,248 on the 31st March 1918 to Rs. 14,978 on the 30th November 1919 and a financial collapse was averted only because the Municipality had a surplus of Rs. 22,000 out of the latrine and hackney carriage receipts. Recourse was had to the same unsatisfactory method to meet the liabilities of the Hazaribagh Municipality and the financial position of Arrah was also precarious. On the other hand the Forbesganj, Revelganj and Buxar municipalities appear to have retrieved their position. The Monghyr Municipality which was on the verge of bankruptcy last year had a number of economies effected and is now in a much better position. It is stated that the Patna City Municipality has been working on a deficit closing balance ever since 1917. The matter is under enquiry by the local officers.

Embezzlements.

174. Systematic misappropriations of collections were detected in audit in the municipalities of Giridih, Dhanbad, Patna City, Ranchi, Daltonganj and Bhagalpur. In Giridih and Patna City the embezzlements were made by the Tax Collectors who have been prosecuted. In Daltonganj there was a temporary embezzlement by the Officiating Tax Daroga whose services were dispensed with. The Officiating Tax Daroga of the Ranchi Municipality who embezzled Rs. 320 was dismissed and the amount was recovered from his Provident Fund money. The Municipality has been censured by Government for not prosecuting him. There were two cases of embezzlement in Bhagalpur by a Tax Daroga of the Municipality who was prosecuted and sentenced to eighteen months' rigorous imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 150. Misappropriations were also detected in the Forbesganj and Chakradharpur municipalities. In Forbesganj the offender was the Municipal clerk and Accountant. A criminal case under Section 408, I. P. C., has been instituted against him. In Chakradharpur municipality the misappropriation was made by the Municipal clerk who has been criminally prosecuted. It has been clearly proved that the embezzlements and misappropriations have been rendered possible only through lack of supervision and control and neglect of the statutory rules on the part of the Executive Officers, and it is still necessary to impress upon the Municipal Commissioners the importance of more active supervision of collection and systematic check of Municipal accounts.

Loans.

175. The outstanding loan liabilities of the municipalities in the province amounted to Rs. 6,15,198 on the 31st March 1920 as against Rs. 6,42,000 of the previous year. A loan of Rs. 50,000 was sanctioned by Government to the Madhubani Municipality in January last, but it has not been drawn in full. No loan was taken by any other Municipality.

Conservancy.

176. The total expenditure on conservancy rose by Rs. 35,032, in spite of a decrease of Rs. 36,593 in the case of the Patna Administration Committee,

due to the fact that various special construction works were carried out in the preceding year. The conservancy arrangements in the Patna City Municipality are still inadequate. The cost of the conservancy scheme was greatly underestimated, and the Municipality has abandoned the attempt to complete it and even in the portion which has been carried out, deterioration of plant is setting in and the question of replacement is becoming acute. There was an increase of expenditure on conservancy from Rs. 38,733 to Rs. 45,911 in Bhagalpur where the work was reorganized by the Deputy Sanitary Commissioner. Arrangements are reported to be unsatisfactory in Chapra, Darbhanga, Hajipur, Lalganj, Rosera and Buxar. The Barh Municipality failed to introduce any part of a comprehensive conservancy scheme made for it.

177. The drainage system of the Patna City Municipality continued to be a danger to health. A comprehensive scheme for surface drains has been prepared by the Sanitary Engineer and is being carried out piecemeal. So far only one block has been completed with the aid of the grant made by Government. **Drainage and water works.**

Proposals for the levy of water-rates in Muzaffarpur and Patna were given effect to since the close of the year. The Monghyr Municipality still has troubles with its water works on account of the present system of pumping water by means of a floating intake. A grant was made by Government for the purchase of a spare boiler and pump and effecting certain repairs. The system of water supply in Bhagalpur is also defective and requires a thorough overhauling. The matter is under the consideration of the Sanitary Engineer to Government. The water works at Daltonganj are also defective. The outline project of the Puri water works has received the administrative approval of Government and the question of financing the scheme is under their consideration.

PART IV—GENERAL.

178. The rules under the Food Adulteration Act which were under the consideration of Government during the year under report have been finally adopted since the close of the year, and the act has been extended to certain Municipalities and *Mela* areas, such as Sonepur, Rajgir and Bihta. The Municipal Survey Bill was also passed into law. **General observations.**

The Sanitary Board was reconstituted on a more representative basis, and it consists now of six official and five non-official members, one from each division. The powers of the old Board have been widened, and it is now able to grant administrative approval in cases of all projects the estimated cost of which does not exceed one lakh; besides being consulted by Government as to the allocation of all sums not only for sewerage, water-supply and drainage, but generally for the improvement of public health.

The report of the Committee which had been appointed at the instance of the Government of India to study the system of Local Government in England was received and examined on behalf of the Local Government by a representative committee consisting mostly of non-officials.

District Boards.

[Resolution on the working of District Boards in Bihar and Orissa, during the year 1919-20.]

179. There was no change in the number of District and Local Boards, but 12 new Union Committees were constituted, two in the district of Gaya (at Warisaliganj and Rafiganj), one in the district of Champarn (at Chainpatia), two in the district of Monghyr (at Jamui and Sikandra), three in the district of Bhagalpur (at Nirmali, Nawgachia and Amarpur), one in the district of Hazaribagh (at Mirzaganj), two in the district of Cuttack (at Banki and **Number of District and Local Boards and Union Committees.**

Raj Kanika) and one in the district of Balasore (at Soro). The Union at Dhanbad in the district of Manbhum was converted into a Municipality. The number of Unions in existence thus rose from 38 to 49.

District Boards—Number of meetings and attendance of members.

180. There was a slight decrease in the number of meetings held by the District Boards, as compared with that of the preceding year, but none of them failed to hold the statutory minimum of twelve meetings in the year. The average percentage of attendance of official members varied from fifty in Patna to eighty-six in Darbhanga, and that of non-officials from twenty-five in Manbhum to seventy-two in Cuttack. The low percentage of attendance of non-official members in Manbhum is attributed to changes of personnel and the delay in electing the new members. The percentage of abortive meetings shows a falling off from 21 to 19. The District Boards of Darbhanga, Bhagalpur, Purnea and Puri were reconstituted during the year.

Local Boards—Number of meetings and attendance of members.

181. The number of meetings held by the members of the Local Boards was 581, one less than in the preceding year. With the exception of Buxar in the district of Shahabad, Sitamarhi in the district of Muzaffarpur, and Bhadrak and Sadr Local Boards in the district of Balasore, all the Boards met at least once a month. The percentage of attendance of non-officials was highest (79·3) in Bhabhua (Shahabad) and lowest (33·3) in Bargarh (Sambalpur). The Northern Zamindari Local Board in the district of Sambalpur, which should have met three times in the course of the year, held one meeting only. The Local Boards at Arrah Sadr, Buxar and Bhabua in the district of Shahabad, Siwan and Gopalganj in the district of Saran, and all the Local Boards in Bhagalpur and Purnea were reconstituted during the year.

In the Patna Division the Local Boards, in addition to exercising the powers entrusted to them in previous years, were given the control and management of primary schools, a lump sum being granted by the District Boards for the purpose. There has been no change in the powers of Local Boards in the Tirhut and Bhagalpur Divisions, but in Monghyr a comprehensive scheme has been worked out by the Chairman for the expansion of the functions of the Begusarai Local Board, and it is also proposed to extend the scheme to the Jamui Local Board; the intention being ultimately to hand over primary education, sanitation, water-supply and ordinary road communications to the Local Board and Union Committees, the District Board being left free to devote its attention to finance, hospitals, inter-district communications and important original works. No new powers were delegated to the Local Boards in the Chota Nagpur or Orissa Divisions but in Sambalpur the District Council has delegated some of its functions to the Local Boards.

Union Committees.

182. The aggregate income of these bodies amounted to Rs. 85,600 against Rs. 79,708 in the preceding year, and the expenditure was Rs. 81,647 against Rs. 77,484. All except eighteen Union Committees received annual contributions from the District Boards amounting to Rs. 600 or more, and thirty-five levied special taxes for sanitary purposes under section 118C of the Bengal Local Self-Government Act, yielding Rs. 27,474 against Rs. 32,845 in the previous year. The Bhadrak and Soro Committees in Balasore shared the high closing balance of Rs. 3,747, which has not been satisfactorily explained. Union Committees continued to look after sanitation, conservancy and drainage, maintenance of village roads and pounds, and improvement of water supply. In a few cases the Union Committee is managing the local dispensary. The Gopalganj Union Committee was responsible for street lighting.

Financial results.

183. The year opened with a balance of Rs. 27,04,199 to the credit of District Boards, and the total receipts including direct taxation by Union Committees amounted to Rs. 1,23,48,370. The amount available for expenditure was thus Rs. 1,50,52,569, of which Rs. 1,20,18,387 was spent, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 30,34,182. The following table gives a comparison of the income and expenditure under the main heads of account during the past two years:—

Income.

Heads.	1918-19.		1919-20.	
	Amount.	Percentage of total income.	Amount.	Percentage of total income.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.		Rs.	
Land Revenue	22,615	·22	15,147	·12
Provincial rates	57,60,214	57·98	59,93,221	48·5
Interest	74,308	·74	97,832	·79
Law and Justice	26,398	·26	22,508	·18
Police (pounds)	2,25,360	2·25	2,33,316	1·88
Education	10,36,634	10·43	10,89,410	8·82
Medical	1,04,190	1·04	1,28,571	1·04
Scientific and other Minor Departments.	16,910	·18	15,863	·12
Receipts in aid of compassionate allowance.	233	·002	233	·018
Stationery and Printing ...	2,675	·03	2,668	·021
Miscellaneous	51,423	·51	39,614	·32
Railways	7,394	·07	10,094	·081
Civil Works, including Ferries ...	11,97,063	12·05	12,14,809	9·83
Loans	...	...	80,295	·65
Deposits and Advances	14,08,078	14·11	34,04,789	27·58
Total ...	99,33,495	...	1,23,48,370	...

Expenditure.

Heads.	1918-19.		1919-20.	
	Amount.	Percentage of expenditure.	Amount.	Percentage of expenditure.
1	2	3	4	
	Rs.		Rs.	
Interest and Debt	14,977	·15	14,036	·116
Administration	2,28,767	2·40	2,83,681	2·36
Police (Pounds)	15,636	·16	19,986	·16
Education	15,88,090	16·71	17,18,981	14·38
Medical	8,05,491	8·48	8,95,861	7·45
Scientific and other Minor Departments	1,34,944	1·42	1,47,103	1·22
Superannuation allowances and Pensions	70,716	·74	78,064	·64
Stationery and Printing... ...	53,286	·56	68,390	·56
Miscellaneous	34,605	·36	27,201	·22
Famine Relief	2,625	.03	98,123	.81
Railways	...	...	3,298	·027
Civil Works (Public Works) ...	48,12,919	50·66	50,50,329	42·03
Repayment of loans	29,868	·31	1,12,366	·93
Deposits and Advances	16,99,946	17·89	34,95,873	29·1
Total ...	94,99,867	...	1,20,13,294	...

INCOME.

Land Revenue.

184. (Rs. 15,147).—The income under this head shows a net decrease of Rs. 7,468 as compared with that of the preceding year, due mainly to failure to realize taxes by Union Committees in Chota Nagpur and the conversion of the Dhanbad Union into a Municipality.

Provincial rates.

185. (Rs. 59,93,221).—The receipts under this head show a net increase of Rs. 2,33,007 of which Rs. 1,14,792 is contributed by Hazaribagh on account of cesses of newly opened Railway collieries, while the districts of Gaya, Shahabad, Saran, Muzaffarpur, Monghyr, Purnea, Puri and Sambalpur all showed better collection of cesses and local rates. On the other hand collections fell in Patna, Champaran, Ranchi, Palamau, Cuttack and Balasore. In Champaran Rs. 11,024 was deducted as cost of revaluation. In Palamau heavy realization of arrears had been made in the previous year. In Cuttack and Balasore collections were poor owing to distress.

Police (Pounds).

186. (Rs. 2,33,316).—The income under this head is derived almost entirely from pounds managed by the Boards under the Cattle Trespass Act. The net receipts increased by Rs. 7,956 shared by Patna, Shahabad, Saran, Champaran, Darbhanga, Monghyr, Bhagalpur, Ranchi, Palamau and Manbhum. Pounds were settled for a term of one or three years; in Bhagalpur the experiment was tried by the Local Boards of settling some of the pounds for five years.

Contributions.

187. The usual grant of Rs. 50,000 was placed at the disposal of each Commissioner for augmenting the resources of the District Boards and District Committees. Sums amounting in all to Rs. 43,486 were also distributed *pro rata* among the Boards for the improvement of water supply in rural areas, while further special grants aggregating at Rs. 4,92,106 were made to the various Boards and District Committees for the improvement of communications, etc. Government also granted one lakh each to the District Boards of Gaya and Manbhum for the construction of the Phalgu and Damodar bridges.

Other items.

188. The great increase of Rs. 19,76,711 shown as income under the head "Deposits and Advances" which is counterbalanced by an increase of Rs. 17,95,927 in expenditure, is due to the action of the District Boards of the Patna and Chota Nagpur Divisions in dealing in rice, cloth and salt owing to scarcity and general economic conditions. An increase from Rs. 10,36,634 to Rs. 10,89,410 under the head "Education" is common to all districts and does not call for special comment. Receipts under "Medical" show a net increase of Rs 24,381. The Manbhum District Board received a contribution of Rs. 15,000 from Babu Kandhai Lal Agarwala for establishment of a dispensary at Balarampur.

No loans were taken by any District Board during the year.

EXPENDITURE.

Administration.

189. (Rs. 2,83,681).—The expenditure under this head shows a net increase of Rs. 54,914 which was shared by all the Boards except Ranchi, where the decrease was Rs. 233 only. The increase was due chiefly to periodical increments, payments of grain and temporary war allowances and increased cost of contingencies consequent on the rise in prices.

Education.

190. (Rs. 17,18,981).—The increase of Rs. 1,30,891 in the aggregate expenditure under this head was shared by all the Boards except Saran, Champaran, Ranchi and Cuttack. In Saran and Champaran the decrease was due to smaller expenditure on educational buildings. The decrease in Ranchi was due to failure to submit bills or to spend a Government grant of Rs. 12,000 for increasing the stipends of trained Gurus. In Cuttack the Board ceased to aid Middle English Schools. Difficulty was experienced in this district in obtaining the services of qualified teachers.

A programme for the expansion of primary education has been adopted by all the three Boards in the Patna Division. The Patna Board intends to devote an additional 6 per cent of its ordinary income to education for the next

ten years. In Gaya, the system of making grants to Co-operative Societies and Panchayats for the management of primary schools in the district was introduced as an experiment. Seventeen schools were put in charge of the Nawada Bank.

The Shahabad Board is trying a scheme for payment to primary schools through village Panches. In the Tirhut Division, six primary schools with an annual grant of Rs. 588 were placed by the District Board of Saran under the Gopalganj Co-operative Soceity. The District Board of Darbhanga placed nine schools with a grant of Rs. 582 under the Rohika Central Co-operative Union Bank. In the Bhagalpur Division, the Bhagalpur District Board carried out the first portion of its ten years' programme with the aid of accumulated balances, but will have difficulty in continuing without aid; the Board has however decided to devote an additional two per cent of the Public Works cess to Education. In Purnea the programme will have to be recast as Government will be unable to make further grants for the purpose and the existing programme is beyond the resources of the Board. In the Chota Nagpur Division programmes to regulate the expansion of primary education were prepared by all the District Boards; and except for Hazaribagh, these programmes have been approved by Government. In Hazaribagh the programme is to be reconsidered owing to the increase in the resources of the Board. Programmes were also prepared by the District Boards in the Orissa Division and were approved by Government with some modifications. All the District Boards except Ranchi and Cuttack attained the prescribed minimum of expenditure on education.

191. The Boards continued to award scholarships to students attending the Bihar School of Engineering, the Veterinary College at Belgachia and other similar institutions. In the Chota Nagpur Division, the number of Industrial Schools rose from 6 to 8. In the Orissa Division, the Boys' Industrial School at Balasore continued to receive the usual monthly grant of Rs. 100 from the Board. This school is reported to be a sound institution managed on practical lines and boys trained in it find ready employment on good pay. The small machines in the workshop are all worked by electricity and the school now represents an investment of over Rs. 60,000. The weaving school at Cuttack was closed on the 31st January 1920. There were no special or industrial schools in Puri and Sambalpur. The Cuttack District Board continued to maintain two peripatetic mistresses to teach sewing and kindergarten in girls' schools. Special Schools.

192. (Rs. 6,95,316).—The total expenditure under this head, excluding sanitation, vaccination and plague charges, amounts to Rs. 6,95,316 against Rs. 6,33,926 in the preceding year, showing an increase of Rs. 61,390 which was shared by all the District Boards except Saran, Purnea and Manbhum and the District Council of Sambalpur, and is due to increased cost of medicines, diet of patients, etc. The minimum prescribed by Government for expenditure under this head, including sanitation and water supply was attained by all the Boards. Medical.

Six new dispensaries were built in Shahabad, Saran, Champaran, Darbhanga, Purnea and Cuttack. One new dispensary was aided in Bhagalpur. Travelling dispensaries were maintained in Shahabad, Purnea, Manbhum, Saran and Champaran. The Gaya Board made its usual contributions to the Lady Elgin Zenana Hospital, the Pilgrim Hospital and the King Edward Memorial Asylum for lepers and the Bhagalpur, Monghyr and Purnea Boards continued to pay their annual contributions to the Pasteur Institute at Kasauli. Balasore paid a special contribution of Rs. 3,000 to the Growse Central Hospital, while Rs. 4,000 was paid by the Puri Board to the Pilgrim Hospital at Puri.

The question of subventing private medical practitioners in villages with a view to improve the supply of medical aid in rural areas is receiving attention by all the Boards in the Patna Division.

The number of dispensaries maintained by District Boards rose from 165 to 178, and cost of their maintenance from Rs. 3,54,313 to Rs. 4,79,132. The District Boards' contribution in aid of these dispensaries amounted to

Rs. 1,75,951 against Rs. 1,85,035 in the preceding year. The number of aided dispensaries fell from 85 to 79.

Sanitation.

193. (Rs. 1,81,545).—The expenditure rose by Rs. 40,455. The largest expenditure was incurred by the District Board of Gaya (Rs. 31,006), Patna (Rs. 29,407), Shahabad (Rs. 22,570), Bhagalpur (Rs. 19,025), and the least by the Palamau District Board (Rs. 1,584). The District Council of Sambalpur spent Rs. 385 only under this head. The work done consisted chiefly in cleaning and disinfection of wells and tanks and the distribution of medicines in times of epidemic. Several of the Boards employed gangs of sweepers for conservancy work in the larger villages and fairs. On the other hand the Cuttack Board has condemned the employment of these gangs. All the Boards in the Patna Division continued to employ one Sanitary Inspector in each Subdivision. In the Tirhut Division, three Sanitary Inspectors, one for each Subdivision, were employed by the Darbhanga District Board. In the Bhagalpur Division, the Monghyr Board maintained four Sanitary Inspectors. The Sanitary staff in the district of Bhagalpur consisted of four Deputy Sanitary Inspectors with the qualification of Civil Hospital Assistants and one Sanitary Inspector. In Purnea a special Health Officer was employed to take measures against recrudescence of influenza and make sanitary arrangements at *melas* : there was no outbreak of cholera at any of the *melas* held in the district during the year.

Veterinary charges.

194. (Rs. 1,12,007).—The expenditure under this head shows a decrease. The District Board of Patna has made contributions totalling Rs. 10,000 for improving the Bankipur Veterinary Dispensary and maintains three bulls at the dispensary. Shahabad purchased four new bulls, Manbhum maintained a Montgomery bull at a cost of Rs. 462, which covered 86 cows during the year. The Saran District Board maintains a buffalo bull in the Veterinary Dispensary given by the Bettiah Raj for breeding purposes. Most of the Boards maintain one or more Veterinary dispensaries, and in all districts itinerant Veterinary Assistants visit outbreaks of epidemic and meet with increasing success in getting the people to appreciate the benefit of protective inoculation.

Civil Works.

195. (Rs. 50,50,329).—The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 50,50,329 against Rs. 48,12,919 in the preceding year, showing an increase of Rs. 2,37,410 which was shared by Patna, Shahabad, Saran, Champaran, Darbhanga, Palamau, Manbhum, Cuttack, Balasore and Sambalpur. The increase in Patna amounted to Rs. 59,991 which included the cost of metalling of two new roads and improvements to the Patna-Gaya Road. An increase of Rs. 1,31,451 in Shahabad included cost of renewal of the Kar bridge on the Sassaram-Tilautha road. Two steam rollers were also purchased. Darbhanga spent an additional Rs. 45,690, largely on screwpile bridges. Champaran spent Rs. 17,075 on the Champaran drainage works and Rs. 18,531 on a masonry bridge on the Madhuban-Deckulia road. The increase in Palamau was mainly due to the completion of the Kechki bridge over the Auranga. In Manbhum Rs. 57,190 was spent on the bridge over the Damodar at Pupunti. Large sums were spent on road construction, a Veterinary Hospital at Dhanbad, dispensary buildings at Manbazar and the acquisition of a bungalow for the District Engineer. This last item however will be refunded as Government have declined to sanction the proposal. The increase in Balasore was due mainly to the improvement of two main roads, the Bhadrak-Chandbali and the Basta-Baliapal, for which Government has sanctioned a grant of Rs. 20,000, and on School and Dispensary buildings. In Sambalpur the increase was due to the completion of the gravelling of the Bijepur-Sargibahal road and the construction of waterways on it and on the second section of the Ranchi road. On the other hand in Bhagalpur and Muzaffarpur there was a decline in expenditure due to shortage of waggons, difficulty in obtaining construction material and reluctance of contractors to tender at existing rates.

The expenditure on " Original Works " under the head " Buildings " fell from Rs. 2,69,424 to Rs. 2,50,828, while that on " Repairs " rose from Rs. 77,365 to Rs. 81,347. The Gaya Board built a new Inspection Bungalow at Aurangabad at a cost of Rs. 7,375. The expenditure on " Original Works " under the head " Communications " rose from Rs. 15,19,569 to Rs. 15,75,847,

while that on "Repairs" fell from Rs. 19,11,801 to Rs. 18,81,515. The total length of metalled roads maintained by the Boards rose from 1,898 to 1,961 miles, that of unmetalled roads from 14,180 to 14,199, and that of village roads from 8,579 to 8,665. The average cost of maintenance of these three classes of roads was Rs. 462·6, 55·12 and 21·7 respectively against Rs. 464·4, 59·5 and 20·1 in the preceding year. Besides these the Patna Board maintained 3·5 miles of Provincial roads at a cost of Rs. 4,852 and 32 miles of municipal roads.

196. Nothing was spent by the Patna District Board on account of railway feeder roads. Gaya spent Rs. 2,920 on this account, Shahabad Rs. 5,485, Saran Rs. 3,993, Muzaffarpur Rs. 5,039, Darbhanga Rs. 2,878, Hazaribagh Rs. 19,259, Palamau Rs. 15,908, Manbhum Rs 24,648, Cuttack Rs. 16,596 and Sambalpur Rs. 158. The Ranchi Board spent Rs. 50,915 mainly on new roads to Lohardaga and the Champaran Board also built three new roads to be opened for traffic next year. Railway Feeder Roads.

197. (Rs. 1,63,250).—The expenditure shows a net increase of Rs. 11,940. The minimum standard of expenditure fixed by Government (Rs. 5,000) for the improvement of rural water-supply was reached by all District Boards except the District Council of Sambalpur. The activities of the Boards in this respect are chiefly devoted to the construction and repair of wells. The Shahabad Board made its usual contribution of Rs. 4,000 to the Arrah Water Works and the District Board of Bhagalpur paid Rs. 5,000 as its yearly contribution to the Bhagalpur Municipality towards the maintenance of the Municipal Water Works. Water supply and water works.

198. (Rs. 38,714).—There was an increase of Rs. 16,898 under this head. The District Board of Champaran spent Rs. 17,075 on the drainage works of the Chainpatia Bazar. Muzaffarpur spent Rs. 4,038 over the survey of drainage channels in the district and for flood observation with a view to collect data for improving the natural drainage of that district. Darbhanga spent Rs. 7,799 in constructing road-side drains. Monghyr spent Rs. 2,110 on original and repair works. Drainage.

199. (Rs. 91,729).—The total outlay shows an increase of Rs. 33,226. The minimum expenditure fixed by Government was reached by all the Boards. Arboriculture.

200. (Rs. 30,34,182).—The aggregate closing balances, excluding deposits, amounted to Rs. 25,52,886 against Rs. 22,74,791 in the preceding year. The actual balances were generally far in excess of the minimum prescribed by the Commissioners of Divisions. It is explained by the Commissioner of Patna that the accumulation of balances amounting to Rs. 5,90,597 is due chiefly to the congestion of railway traffic, and consequent difficulty in obtaining material for constructional work. For the heavy balances in the Tirhut Division, the explanation offered is that they were unspent balances under the heads "Education" and "Civil Works" and that grants for specific purposes received towards the close of the year could not be spent. For the Bhagalpur Division the Commissioner mentions the lapse of allotments under the heads "Education" "Medical" and especially "Civil Works". In Hazaribagh the actual closing balance was Rs. 2,27,427. Out of this Rs. 1,42,348 represents cess on railway collieries which was received in March 1920. The Commissioner does not find the explanation of the remaining balance to be satisfactory. In Ranchi the actual closing balance was Rs. 97,745 against a prescribed minimum working balance of Rs. 7,000. The explanation given is that the Board was unable to spend a Government grant of Rs. 37,000 for the Ranchi-Sambalpur road or to complete the payment of certain contractors' bills. The balance in Manbhum amounted to Rs. 4,12,406. This amount includes a grant of one lakh of rupees towards the close of the year for the construction of a bridge over the Damodar river and extra cess receipts of Rs. 1,61,345. As the cess in Manbhum is mostly collected during the last quarter of the year the Cess Department was not able to revise its estimate earlier. The reduction of the closing balance is an important matter, and one which is pressed on the attention of the Boards every year. Closing balance.

201. The privilege of electing a non-official chairman was extended to three District Boards during the year and has since been extended to a fourth. There is also a tendency to increase the responsibilities of the Local Boards General observations.

by devolution to them of the management of primary education and ordinary communications. The extension of the elective system for Local Boards to the Tirhut, Bhagalpur and Orissa divisions is being considered by Government.

One of the chief problems confronting the Boards is that of finance, as under the new arrangements it is not expected that the Government will be able materially to increase the assistance that it is giving already. The time is approaching when even the addition of the Public Works cess to the incomes of the Boards will prove inadequate and the only remedy is fresh taxation, whether by levy of special education cess or by raising the statutory limit up to which the rate of general cess can be imposed.

It is satisfactory to note that in the Patna Division the District Boards was able to take effective action in combating the economic difficulties caused by the war. A sum of over 17 lakhs shown as Deposits and Advances represents the transactions of these Boards in the purchase and sale of rice, salt and cloth in order to control prices. The results of their operations were very successful. The District Boards of the Chota Nagpur Division were equally to the force in taking measures for prevention of famine. Loans amounting to 11 lakhs of rupees were taken from private agencies or from Government to buy rice. The Hazaribagh District Board arranged for the necessary importation of rice from Burma by advances to local firms which were recovered during the year. The Manbhum Board expended five and a half lakhs on buying rice direct which it sold slightly under cost price, the total loss amounting to a little over five per cent on the outlay. The Ranchi Board also imported rice and was able to check the rise in prices and at the same time carry through its transactions without loss. As a result of these effects it was not necessary to declare famine in any of these districts.

Indian Defence Force.

202. The following Indian Defence Force Units were in existence during the year :—

1. 1st Bihar Light Horse.
2. 39th Chota Nagpur Regiment.

Marine.

(Administration Report of the Orissa Ports.)

Finance.

203. The total receipts including contribution from Government were Rs. 16,131 and the expenditure was Rs. 15,285.

Trade.

204. There were no dutiable imports at any of the ports. Cuttack and Puri had no coasting trade. In Balasore the value of imports by coasting vessels was Rs. 22,14,318 against Rs. 24,32,593 in the previous year. The decrease was due to the high price of articles of import. There were no exports to foreign ports. The total value of free goods (Indian and Foreign) including the value of treasure exported from Balasore amounted to Rs. 16,43,230 against Rs. 11,17,604 in the preceding year. The increase is due to larger exports of grains, hides, brass, ghee, jute, etc.

Arrival and departure.

205. The vessels entering the ports during the year numbered 75 with an aggregate tonnage of 22,156 against 85 with an aggregate tonnage of 16,688. The number that left the ports was 76 with an aggregate tonnage of 22,339 against 84 with an aggregate tonnage of 16,215 in the previous year.

Inspection.

206. The ports were inspected several times by the Port Officer, Cuttack and Balasore Ports. The Port Officer of Calcutta visited them once during the year.

Health of the Ports.

207. The health of the ports was generally fairly good.

Steam Boiler Commission.

Administration of the Act,

208. The administration of the Bengal Steam Boiler and Prime Movers Act of 1879, in those places of Bihar and Orissa in which the Act is in force, continued to remain in the hands of the Boiler Commission under the Government of Bengal.

Inspection of Boilers.

209. The number of boilers inspected was 1,925 against 1,522 in 1918-19 and the fees realized on account of the inspections amounted to Rs. 54,359 against Rs. 26,825 in the preceding year.

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Agriculture.

[Report of the Agricultural Department, Bihar and Orissa, for the year ending 30th June 1920.]

Organization.

210. The shortage of superior staff was acute, four out of seven posts in the Imperial cadre being vacant. Towards the end of the year only two officers were on duty.

Agricultural stations.

211. Lack of funds delayed the opening of new Central farms except at Gaya where land was acquired for the purpose. Buildings for the small farms at Khurda, Sambalpur, Ramgarh and Purulia were completed. Permanent buildings for the sugarcane station at Sipaya were begun. Work was also started on the Netarhat farm and temporary buildings erected. A site has been selected for a Central farm at Saharsa in Bhagalpur and for subsidiary farms at Nawada and Jamui. It has been decided to transfer the experimental farms at Angul, now administered by the Deputy Commissioner, to the department.

Agricultural Associations.

212. Except in Patna, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga and Gaya, the District Associations are reported to have been inactive. The Department relied mainly on Co-operative Societies for the dissemination of its results. Fourteen exhibitions including the Bihar and Orissa Industrial Exhibition were held during the year. A show of calves sired by Government bulls was held at Nawada in the Gaya district.

Arboriculture.

213. Expenditure by District Boards during the year was Rs. 93,716 and receipts were Rs. 18,808. The allotments made by Local Bodies for this purpose generally exceeded the minimum fixed by Government. Two Sub-overseers from the province attended the class at Garden Reach, Calcutta.

Rainfall stations.

214. The number of registering stations rose by three to 308. Rainfall statistics were published monthly in the *Bihar and Orissa Gazette.*

Education.

215. The future of the Sabour College is somewhat uncertain as it is not expected that Bengal and Assam will continue to send pupils. The decision is to be left on the Minister who will take charge of the department. The short two year's course was continued and was attended by 68 students of whom 42 were from Bengal. One Bihari student who passed in March 1920, joined the Department for training as an Agricultural Inspector. Training was given to six non-stipendiary and seven stipendiary students at the various farms at Cuttack, Ranchi, Dumraon, Sabour and Sipaya, the stipendiary students afterwards proceeding for a two years' course to Sabour. A Mechanical Engineer was appointed at Sabour to elaborate and teach a course of Farm Mechanics.

Summary of work done.

216. The area under Mungo sugarcane in Orissa continued to expand. The staff is engaged in introducing it to new areas. The cultivation of ground-nut is extending in Puri district where the area now under the crop is about 230 acres. The yield varies from 12 maunds to 20 maunds an acre. In Bhagalpur 1,000 maunds of Pusa No. 12 wheats, 200 maunds of Indrasail paddy and 100 maunds of Kakya Bombay jute seed were sold. A new early variety of "Dahia" paddy from Sabour was in demand throughout the Division. At Patna 700 maunds of Pusa wheat were stored and distributed. Large quantities were also sold for seed by last year's growers. Groundnuts were successfully grown on about 60 acres of sandy land in Nawada Subdivision. Sixty maunds of *dhaincha* seed were distributed for green manuring. Ten cream separators

were supplied to *goalas* and others in Muzaffarpur. In the Bhagalpur division the Daulatpur, Banka and Madhipura Central Banks gave material assistance in the results achieved. Co-operative Societies in Orissa also took a keen interest in the work of the department. The Agricultural Seed Supply Society in Dumka stored 73,800 pounds of Pusa wheat for distribution as seed during the coming season.

Research and Experiments.

217. The soil survey which has been undertaken at Sabour was continued. An improvement of 45 per cent in the outturn of paddy in a certain area in South Bhagalpur found to be lacking in phosphates was obtained by the use of green manure which had been treated with acid or basic superphosphate at the time of sowing. These results are being followed up.

Paddy.

218. At Cuttack two varieties of paddy, fine *aus* and *loochain*, have been selected as superior to any local varieties and are being multiplied for distributing. Several promising types of paddy have been isolated at Sabour and are being multiplied for trial.

Sugarcane.

219. Work was started in all the farms of the department in order to discover stronger varieties and demonstrate the necessity of proper drainage of land on which it is sown. Good results were obtained at Ranchi where over 1,000 maunds of cane or 120 maunds per acre were obtained on drained paddy land without irrigation. Very large yields were obtained at the sugarcane station at Sipaya from some new seedling canes introduced from Coimbatore. Other experiments were made in connection with cotton, groundnuts, castor, gram, peas as well as with coconuts for growing in the Deltas of Orissa, where there are great possibilities for this form of cultivation if adequate drainage can be secured.

Fisheries.

220. Fishery work continued in charge of the staff which is shared with the Government of Bengal. The operations of the Department in Bihar and Orissa mainly confined to the distribution of fry to the public and to carp cultural experiments in tanks. No results were obtained from the latter as the brood fish had not yet become acclimatized. The work of the District Fishery Officer, Puri, whose appointment as an experimental measure has been sanctioned for two years only, comprised an investigation into the economic condition of the fishermen living mainly in the Government estate at Balukhand and on the shore of the Chilka Lake. The only practical suggestion so far made by the Department for the amelioration of their condition is the institution of Co-operative societies with funds supplied by Government on favourable terms. A scheme has been worked out.

VETERINARY.

[Report on the Civil Veterinary Department in Bihar and Orissa for 1919-20.]

General.

221. A scheme for the reorganization of the department received the sanction of the Secretary of State. The improvements effected in the pay and prospects of the service are considerable. An additional Imperial Officer joined during the year who will take cha ge of the North Bihar Circle.

Veterinary instruction.

222. Twenty students from the province joined the Bengal Veterinary College. Out of 56 students who appeared at the examination during the year 44 passed.

Cattle-disease.

223. Contagious cattle-diseases were prevalent in all districts during the year, but the outbreaks were generally less virulent and more localized in character than in the previous year. Outbreaks reported totalled 3,021 against 3,764 in 1918-19. The number of animals reported attacked and the number of deaths were 88,349 and 15,781 respectively. Rinderpest occurred in all districts except Muzaffarpur and was responsible for 11,572 deaths. Inoculation was performed in 40,410 cases. It was reported that difficulty was

experienced in getting adequate supplies of serum. Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia caused the death of 3,525 cattle. Out of 11,754 cattle inoculated for this disease in affected areas only 7 died.

224. The number of dispensaries opened remained at 24. Several District Boards have arranged to open new dispensaries during 1920-21. **Dispensaries.**

225. The work of the cattle-breeding farms at Bettiah and Sipaya continued. A cattle-breeding scheme for the whole province is under consideration of Government but has been found too costly to undertake until the financial situation improves. A cattle-breeding scheme inaugurated in Shahabad has been successful. The Government bulls distributed are appreciated and applications have been made for more. A cattle census was carried out during the year. **Breeding operations.**

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

[Report on the working of the Co-operative Societies in Bihar and Orissa for the year ending the 31st May 1920.

226. The table below summarizes the progress of Societies of all kinds made during the year ending on the 31st May 1920:— **General progress.**

Year.	Societies.			Total.	Remarks.
	Central.	Non-Agricultural.	Agricultural.		
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Number of Societies.			
1918-19	31	94	2,044	2,169	
1919-20	38	134	2,774	2,946	
Total ...	+7	+40	+730	+770	
		Membership.			
1918-19	3,742	13,4 9	65,818	83,029	
1919-20 ...	4,972	16,360	79,732	1,01,064	
Total ...	+1,230	+2,891	+13,914	+18,035	
		Working Capital.			
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1918-19	26,42,036	4,68,573	34,27,905	65,38,514	
1919-20	32,62,913	7,52,773	38,09,758	78,25,444	
Total ...	+6,20,877	+2,84,200	+3,81,853	+12,86,930	

The aggregate working capital showed an increase of twelve lakhs and the total number of members of societies of all descriptions rose from 83,029 to 96,092.

227. The Bank was well advertised during the year and deposits rose from Rs. 1,92,081 to Rs. 3,53,632, besides Rs. 43,000 savings Banks deposits. The reserve fund stands at Rs. 38,734 in addition to Rs. 20,000 special reserve. **Provincial Bank.**

for depreciation of gilt-edged securities. The net profit for the year was Rs. 22,358. The Bank was able to meet all demands made upon it by its constituents.

Central Banks.

228. The number of Central Banks was 38. In spite of withdrawals for investment in war loans and for remittance to England owing to the high rate of exchange, deposits from individual members increased from Rs. 18,00,562 to Rs. 24,45,954. This was a result of special effort by the staff and honorary workers. A system of savings deposits was instituted in several of the Banks with success. The reserve funds rose from Rs. 87,974 to Rs. 1,04,371, of which all but Rs. 7,489 was invested separately. The Banks showed activity in the introduction of agricultural improvements. Notable success was obtained with Pusa wheat in Gaya, groundnut in Gaya and Orissa, and improved sugarcane crushers in Supaul. Five Central Banks now have permanent buildings of their own and four more have buildings under construction.

Guarantee Union.

229. The number of Guarantee Unions again increased from 42 to 63 and of affiliated societies from 221 to 388. A number of these unions are reported to have worked very well and to have given valuable assistance to the Central Banks in teaching co-operation, settling disputes and scrutinizing applications for loans. Other Guarantee Unions require further education. There is great room for the further expansion of these Unions in order to supersede the somewhat unsatisfactory agency of inspecting clerks.

Agricultural Societies.

230. Seven hundred and thirty-seven new societies were opened, bringing the total up to 2,774, and membership increased by nearly 14,000 and working capital by Rs. 3,82,000 out of a demand of Rs. 22,70,540, the sum of Rs. 14,37,386 not collected, or a percentage of 63 against 52 last year. Many societies took advantage of the favourable conditions of the year to pay off previous arrears. There are 26 agricultural sale societies in the province, the object of which is to market the agricultural produce of the members with least profit to middlemen. Eleven of these societies in the Khurda Subdivision showed a profit of 33 per cent on the capital invested. The prospects of this form of co-operation appear very promising. The internal condition of the societies improved. While E Class societies increased by one only, D class societies decreased by 40 and C, B and A class societies increased by 150, 42 and 15 respectively. The total of the reserve funds now stands at Rs. 5,42,512.

Non-agricultural Societies.

231. Societies formed by Government ministerial officers increased from 25 to 31. These societies are not allowed to borrow from non-members, their whole capital consisting of savings of the members. The Secretariat Society had deposits of Rs. 44,319 from members and collected Rs. 50,247 due to it in full. There was a demand for Store Societies which increased in number from 12 to 24.

Audit.

232. All the societies were audited during the year except 122, which had to be held over owing to difficulties of staff. Two thousand six hundred and sixty-eight societies are now affiliated to the Audit Federation. The Federation found difficulty in meeting its expenses during the year and was unable to complete its programme for training of its officials. Proposals for meeting the difficulty are under consideration of Government.

Weather and Crops.

[Season and Crop Report of Bihar and Orissa, 1919-20, Crop Forecasts of Bihar and Orissa, 1919-20, Area and Yield of certain principal crops in India, 1919-20.]

Character of the season.

233. The Agricultural year 1919-20 was a good one in Bihar and Orissa, being characterized chiefly by good early and late rains which gave both the monsoon and *rabi* crops a good start and combined to give an unusually large crop of winter paddy both in area and yield per acre. The area would have been still larger but for shortage of seed in some cases owing to the failure of the previous year. The rainfall in the monsoon was insufficient in parts of Tirhut while floods caused great damage to *bhadai* crops along the Ganges, and in Orissa where heavy rain in November also destroyed recently-sown *rabi* crops.

The table below shows the estimated area and outturn in 1919-20 of *bhadai*, winter and *rabi* crops in comparison with the revised estimates for the previous year and with the accepted normal figures:—

Name of Harvest.	Normal area in acres.	Area in acres cultivated during 1918-19.	Area in acres cultivated during 1919-20.	Taking 100 to represent the normal outturn how much represented the outturn for the year—	
				1918-19	1919-20
1	2	3	4	5	6
Bhadai	8,894,100	8,529,700	8,781,400	75	110
Winter ... Winter rice ...	11,269,300	11,182,400	11,336,100	60	115
Winter ... Sugarcane and other crops.	959,000	913,400	918,100	90	105
Rabi	11,038,300	8,424,100	10,879,000	87	100
Total ...	32,160,700	29,049,600	31,914,600	73	108

234. The total area cultivated during 1919-20 with different kinds of *bhadai* crops was estimated at 8,781,400 acres against 8,529,700 acres in the preceding year. The season was on the whole a good one for *bhadai* crops favouring each of the three principal crops (viz., autumn rice, *marua* and maize) in the tracts where they are important. Extensive damage was, however, caused by floods on both sides of the Ganges, and also in the three coast districts of Orissa. The maize crop was damaged by excessive rain in August in most districts of the province south of the Ganges. The total area under *bhadai* food-crops was estimated at 8,388,400 acres compared with 8,154,200 acres of the preceding year and a normal area of 8,391,700 acres. The outturn of the *bhadai* crops was estimated at 110 per cent of the normal against 75 per cent in the preceding year. *Bhadai* Crops.

235. Shortage of rain at the beginning and end of the season in the jute districts of North Bihar, and floods in Cuttack resulted in a comparatively small outturn in a generally favourable growing season. There was difficulty in retting the crop in parts of Purnea for want of sufficient water. The area under jute in the province was 203,400 acres against 149,300 acres, the revised area of the previous year. The gross yield of the crop was estimated at 495,900 bales against 335,300 bales, the revised figure for last year. Jute.

236. Indigo is cultivated in eight districts of Bihar, chiefly in the Tirhut Division. In the important districts of North Bihar there has been a reduction in the area under indigo, partly owing to difficulty in selling the produce though good prices were obtainable, and partly on account of the high prices now ruling for food-crops. Weather conditions were more favourable than last year and the second cuttings gave more satisfactory results. According to the estimates of District Officers, the area sowed was 57,100 acres against 64,200 acres of the previous year and the total yield of the crop worked out at 12,343 factory maunds (921,600lbs.) against 9,395 factory maunds (701,500lbs.) in the previous year. Indigo.

237. *Rice.*—The weather was exceptionally favourable for rice in the early part of the season owing to the unusual rainfall between January and May, *Aghani* Crops.

which facilitated preparation of lands and early sowings, and to the generally heavy rain in June and July which favoured early or normal transplantation. Again, the *hathiya* rain of September and October was of immense benefit to the crop in most districts. In parts of Tirhut, however, and also in Singhbhum, the *hathiya* rain was insufficient and the crop on high and unirrigated lands suffered considerably in consequence. The crop was completely destroyed in parts of Cuttack and Puri by floods in August. The heavy rain in November also damaged the crop in the latter district. The area sown with winter rice was 11,336,100 acres against 11,182,400 acres of the previous year and a normal area of 11,269,300 acres. The outturn of the crop for the province as a whole was estimated at 115 per cent of the normal, as against 60 per cent in the previous year.

Sugarcane.

238. Sugarcane is cultivated chiefly in North and South Bihar. Outside Bihar the crop is important in Manbhum and Hazaribagh. The weather conditions were generally favourable. Some damage was done by excessive rain in Shahabad and by floods in the Santal Parganas and Puri. According to the estimates of District Officers the area under the crop was 274,500 acres against 274,800 acres of the previous year. The outturn of the crop for the province as a whole was estimated at 105 per cent of the normal as against 90 per cent in the previous year.

Rabi Crops.

239. In consequence of the good *hathiya* rain, sowings of *rabi* crops began generally at the normal time, and continued under favourable conditions. The crops suffered from lack of rain in December and January in parts of Tirhut, Bhagalpur, Purnea and Hazaribagh, but the rain in February improved prospects considerably though it was too late for the early rape and pulse crops. Hail is said to have caused slight damage in some parts of Bihar in March. The total area under all kinds of *rabi* crops was estimated at 10,879,000 acres against 8,424,100 acres in 1918-19. The total normal area under these crops is 11,038,300 acres. The total area of various *rabi* food-crops including wheat amounted to 8,552,000 acres against 6,552,800 acres in the preceding year. The area sown with different *rabi* non-food crops was 2,327,1000 acres against 1,871,300 acres, the estimate of the previous year. The outturn of oilseeds, wheat and other *rabi* crops was estimated as normal.

Cotton.

240. Of the two varieties, early and late, it is the early cotton crop that is chiefly grown in this province. The crop is important in Tirhut, Chota Nagpur, the Santal Parganas, Angul and Sambalpur. The late variety is mainly grown in Saran. Weather conditions were generally favourable. The area under cotton (early and late) in the province was 77,00 acres against 79,000 acres of the previous year, and the outturn of the crops for the province as a whole including the Native States, was estimated at 22,217 bales against 21,371 bales, the revised figure of 1918-19; but there is reason to believe that the quantity grown in the Native States is very much greater than has hitherto been assumed.

Forests.

[The Annual Progress Report on Forest Administration in the Province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1919-20.]

Staff.

241. Work continued to be hampered by shortage of staff, and the death from blackwater fever of Mr. A. N. Grieve, Deputy Conservator of Forests, was a heavy blow to the Department. Two temporary officers for two years were appointed towards the close of the year against eight vacancies in the Imperial cadre. A new Forest Engineering service for India was created during the year and of the probationers to be appointed immediately, one is for the province of Bihar and Orissa.

Area.

242. There was no change in the area of reserved forests. The area of Protected Forests increased from 1,089 to 1,210 square miles, 366 square miles of Protected Forests being transferred from the Civil Department in Angul, while 245 square miles of undemarcated Protected Forests in the Puri Division were made over to the Civil Department. About 21 square miles of protected forests

in Palamau district were notified for reservation under section 4 of the Indian Forest Act. Twenty-seven square miles of demarcated protected forests in Angul were closed for a term of 30 years under section 29 (*b*) of the Act.

243. A new forest division was created for Hazaribagh district, which was formerly included in Palamau. Expenditure on roads and buildings rose from Rs. 82,469 to Rs. 86,528. Sixty miles of cart roads, three new rest-houses and some quarters for subordinates were constructed. **Communications and Buildings.**

244. The total number of forest offences reported was some thirty per cent above the past average. The increase is ascribed mainly to improved methods of detection in Sambalpur. **Forest offences.**

245. Out of an area of 867,500 acres over which fire protection was attempted 730,167 acres or 84 per cent were successfully protected as compared with 99 per cent in the previous year. The number of fires rose to 93 from 73 while the area burnt increased by more than 100,000 acres. The increase was due to an unusually prolonged drought, and the abandonment of special fire protection in Sambalpur, where many fires were caused by the villagers. It is also reported that the system of early burning introduced in some areas was misunderstood by the subordinate staff and not properly carried out. **Losses by fire.**

246. The total revenue was Rs. 7,93,117 representing a decrease of roughly Rs. 1,38,000 on last year's figure. Expenditure increased by Rs. 75,000. The decrease in revenue mainly arose as anticipated from the cessation of the demand for timber for munition purposes. Establishment charges are likely to increase still further and the department is alive to the necessity of tapping new sources of revenue, and is experimenting in this connexion with the production of charcoal and the utilization of partially unsound timber for half-round sleepers with a view to tapping new sources of revenue. There also appears to be great possibilities in the propagation of lac. Experiments on scientific lines are being made at Kundri in the Palamau district. **Financial Results.**

247. The Rajadera and Katabil portions of the Banspahar forests of about 4,430 acres in Ranchi district were acquired during the year. Arrangements were made for taking over about 7,000 acres of the forest area of Debour and Chatkari Government Estates in Gaya. Agreements under section 38 of the Forest Act have been executed by private owners or by Managers of Encumbered or Courts of Wards Estates in twenty-three cases. Proposals for the acquisition of a portion of the Dalma Hill situated in the district of Manbhum for a wood and fuel reserve for Jamshedpur are under consideration, while proposals are under preparation for extensive acquisition in the Damodar Valley with a view to minimizing floods from that river. **Conservation of Private Forests.**

248. The area of the Puri teak plantations was increased by 75 acres. A further 1,942 acres of land were acquired for the Puri casuarina plantation of which 100 acres were planted. Arrangements are being made for planting the remainder at the rate of 350—400 acres annually. The system of *Taungya* cultivation by Khonds in Puri district is proving very successful, areas of the teak regeneration circle being cleared and sown with field crops and teak at intervals. It is hoped to attract more settlers into the area in order to accelerate the process. **Artificial and natural reproduction.**

Manufactures and Mines.

[Statistics of British India, Part I, Industrial.]

249. The area under jute was estimated at 203,400 acres against 149,300 acres, the revised figure of the previous year. The gross outturn was in round figures 495,900 bales against 335,300 bales in the previous year. **Jute.**

250. The area under indigo was 57,100 acres against 64,200 acres in the previous year. The gross outturn was 12,343 factory maunds against 9,395 factory maunds in 1918-19. **Indigo.**

Tea.

251. The area under tea in 1919 was 2,083 acres in the twenty-one gardens of Ranchi and 30 acres in the single garden of Hazaribagh. The outturn of tea—black and green—in 1919 was 412,511 lbs. against 323,864 lbs. in 1918.

Sugar.

252. The total outturn of sugar produced by the sugar refineries in the Tirhut Division and in Shahabad, Monghyr and Bhagalpur was 550,597 maunds against 491,803 maunds of the previous year. The sugar refineries worked generally well and prices obtained were profitable. A considerable quantity of cane grown in this province finds its way to the Pertabpur and Bhabnauli concerns in Gorakhpur, United Provinces, the sugar produce of which is reported in the statistics of the United Provinces. In the Pertabpur concern 25,342 maunds of sugar was produced from the cane supplied from this province.

Coal.

253. Four hundred and sixty-six coal mines were worked in the province as compared with 451 in the previous year and the total output rose from 13,675,616 tons to 15,117,903 tons, that is to say nearly five-sevenths of the total output of India. The greater part of the coal was mined in the district of Manbhum where 432 mines yielded 13,002,683 tons. The daily average number of persons employed in mines rose from 118,650 to 129,808. The total number of fatal accidents reported during the year increased from 94 to 124 and the total number of deaths increased from 104 to 161.

Iron-ore.

254. Two mines were worked during the year in Singhbhum and yielded 100,210 tons of ore as compared with a yield of 115,085 tons in the previous year. The daily average number of persons employed fell from 1,087 to 986.

Mica.

255. The number of mines worked during the year increased from 510 to 526 and the total output decreased to 32,290 cwts. from 44,220 cwts. This decrease of nearly 27·2 per cent was partly due to the less urgent demand for rapid output consequent on the termination of the war. The daily average number of persons employed fell from 21,364 to 18,100.

Copper-ore.

256. Only one copper-ore mine at Singhbhum was worked. It yielded 32,756 tons as compared with 3,619 tons in 1918 and 20,108 in 1917, and gave employment to a daily average of 2,628 persons as compared with 1,314 in the preceding year.

Miscellaneous Manufactures and Industries in each division.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1919-20.]

Patna Division.

257. The oil and flour mills in Patna suffered from shortage of coal and iron. The weaving of *motia* cloth in the Nawada Subdivision of Gaya was adversely affected by the high price of cotton-twist and the carpet weaving at Sasaram and Bhabua in Shahabad by the scarcity of dyes. The mica industry in Gaya declined owing to the cessation of war. Other local industries such as cloth-weaving in Bihar, the *tasar* industry at Kadirganj in Nawada, pottery and stone-cutting at Sasaram, and the carpet, durri, newar and blanket-weaving industries continued as in the previous year. Limestone and ballast quarries in Sasaram did well.

Tirhut Division.

258. The tobacco, sugar, *alua* and indigo industries in Darbhanga continued to prosper. The area under indigo in Champaran and Muzaffarpur again fell from 26,400 and 22,600 acres in 1917-18 to 7,400 and 18,000, respectively, during the year. Rice mills in Saran, Champaran and Muzaffarpur and two flour mills in the latter district did well. The Salvation Army carried on their silk manufacture at Barwat and net-making and weaving industries at Chautarwa as before and Messrs. H. Dear and Company continued to work their timber concession on the Ramnagar estate. The manufacture of catechu in the forests of the Bettiah and the Ramnagar estates, and of durries, carpets and mother-of-pearl buttons at Mehsi in Champaran continued and the factory for the manufacture of mother-of-pearl buttons and chains for watches at Motihari reported last year to have come to a standstill was shifted to Mehsi and is doing well.

259. The Government mica mines at Maheshri in Monghyr were closed in the beginning of the year while brick making improved owing to the fall in the price of coal. The large cigarette factory of the Peninsular American Tobacco Company at Monghyr, the slate-quarrying business of Messrs. Ambler and Company, the Railway Workshop at Jamalpur, the old *bafta* and *tasar* industry in Bhagalpur, the jute trade in Purnea, the lac factories in Pakur and Dumka, the *sabai* godowns and oil mills of Sahibganj, the handloom industry in the Rajmahal Damin and the manufacture of country cigarettes called *biri* at Jhajha and Dumka continued as in the previous year. Bhagalpur Division.

260. The bell metal and coarse cloth industries in Balasore and in the Jajpur Subdivision of Cuttack suffered greatly owing to agricultural depression and the high prices of metal and yarn coarse, cotton cloth in Kendrapara. Stoneware in Balasore and silver filigree and horn work in Cuttack continued to be manufactured as before. There was a good demand for boots and shoes and other leather articles turned out by the Utkal Tannery. The high price of cotton yarn and silk cocoons acted as a severe set-back to the weaving industry in Sambalpur, many of the hereditary weavers abandoned their profession. Mr. Casey's sisal hemp plantation at Nildongri continued to flourish. Applications for prospecting licenses in Sambalpur increased, and a proposal for a general survey of the mica-bearing area of the Borasambar Zamindari is under consideration. Messrs. Villiers Colliery Company, Limited, applied for a prospecting license for coal and iron in Angul. Orissa Division.

261. The mining industries continued to expand. The three collieries in Hazaribagh continued to be developed. In Palamau the Bengal Coal Company opened up their coal-fields at Hutar and also prospected for bauxite. A new industry was started, namely the manufacture of cement by the Associated Portland Cement Company at Japla. The lac and coal industries of Manbhum both flourished. The market price of lac rose from Rs. 10 as high to Rs. 270 a maund and the total produce for the year is estimated to have been 1¼ lakhs of maunds. Other important enterprises are the Engineering, Fireclay and Silica works at Kumardubi and the Engineering works at Ekra. In Singhbhum mining made rapid progress, the most important minerals found being iron, copper, chromite, manganese, gold, silver, wolfram, red and yellow ochre, limestone, kaolin and various building stones. Most of these, however, occur spasmodically and in quantities too small to be exploited profitably, but the iron-ore deposits worked by the Bengal Iron Company and the Iron and Steel Company are among the finest in the world, yielding up to 65 per cent of iron. These companies extracted one lakh of tons and four lakhs of tons of iron-ore respectively. Copper, which is next in importance, was being worked by the Cape Copper Company at Matigara in Dhalbhum. The Singhbhum Chromite Company exported 630 tons of chromite since November and has another 1,500 tons awaiting transport. About 1,000 tons of manganese was extracted by the firm of Motilal Iswardas. The Darbhanga Gold Mining Syndicate suspended operations indefinitely. The Sutna Stone and Lime Company extracted 3,624 tons of limestone from the Lotapahar quarry. The Tata works had another prosperous year and continued to expand. Chota Nagpur Division.

An Imperial Officer was deputed by the Forest Department to make inquiries about the lac industry in Singhbhum and the Agent for the Columbia Record Company, one of the largest lac consumers in the world, visited Chaibassa in the same connection.

Working of the Indian Factories Act.

[Report on the working of the Indian Factories Act, Bengal, Bihar and Orissa and Assam.]

262. The total number of factories working in the province during the year 1919 was 74 against 62 in the preceding year. The daily average number of persons employed was 52,576 of whom 51,124 were adults against 43,471 and 42,030 of the preceding year. In 26 factories work was carried on under the system of midday stoppage, and in 33 factories under other arrangements. The remaining 15 factories were exempted under Part C of Number of Factories and system of work.

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Schedule I of the Act. The Sunday holiday was observed in 35 factories, Sunday or a substitute day in 17 factories, 17 factories were worked under other arrangements and the remaining 5 factories were exempted under Part B of Schedule II and section 22(4) (*d*) of the Act.

Inspections.

263. Inspections by the wholetime Inspectors were made in 57 factories once, in three twice and in one thrice and the remaining 13 were not inspected. The District Officers of Gaya, Muzaffarpur, Saran, Shahabad, Singhbhum and Monghyr made some inspections of factories in their respective districts.

General health of operatives.

264. The general health of operatives was on the whole good.

Wages and general condition of operatives.

265. The average weekly rates of wages including all bonus of the different classes of skilled and unskilled labourers were as follows, having risen considerably during the year :—

		Rs. a.		Rs. a.
Preparers ...	Men	3 8	to	5 9
	Women	2 7	„	3 5
Shifters ...	Adults	2 12	„	4 4
	Half-timers	1 12	„	2 4
Piece-workers ...	Men	6 4	„	8 6
	Women	3 13	„	7 0
Mistries ...	Fitters	6 4	„	11 4
	Blacksmiths	7 0	„	14 0
	Carpenters	7 12	„	14 0
	Masons	4 14	„	9 0
Coolies	... ...	3 2	„	4 4

The general condition of operatives employed in factories in this province is reported to be satisfactory. Much activity has been shown at the Tata Iron and Steel Works for the welfare of the employés. Housing accommodation has been provided for fourteen hundred families and is being extended. A store is run for sale of grains and cloth at cost price. A High School, Girls' School and fifteen Primary Schools are maintained at a cost of Rs. 45,000 per annum. Free attendance is given at the Company's Dispensary at the cost of Rs. 80,000 per annum. The attendance is in the neighbourhood of one thousand a day.

Employment of women and children.

266. The daily average number of women employed in factories in this province was 8,508 and that of children 1,452 against 5,923 and 1,441 in the preceding year.

Fencing of machinery.

267. Special attention was given to this matter by the Inspecting Staff, and necessary orders issued where the existing fencing or safety appliances were found unsatisfactory. Work now still restricted owing to shortage of staff and the large increase in the number of factories in this province and in Bengal.

Accidents.

268. The number of accidents reported during the year was 916 against 899 in the previous year. Of these, 19 were fatal, 101 serious and 796 slight against 23 fatal, 181 serious and 695 slight in 1918. The majority of the accidents occurred at the Tata Iron and Steel Works, but it is gratifying to note that the number of fatal and serious accidents at these works substantially decreased, being 15 fatal and 58 serious in 1919 against 19 fatal and 136 serious in 1918. Against the slight increase in the number of accidents during the year must be set the fact that the total number of operatives employed in the province increased by 7,353 or 55 per cent; the actual percentage of accidents being 3·18 in 1919 as against 4·67 in 1918.

Prosecutions.

269. There were no prosecutions under the Act.

Trade.

[Statistics of British India, Part III, Commercial.]

I.—Foreign Sea-Borne Trade.

270. No foreign trade was carried on during the year. Foreign trade.

II.—Coasting Trade.

271. The coasting trade was confined to Balasore. The total value of imports by coasting vessels decreased, but there was an increase in the total value of exports as shown below :— Coasting trade.

Imports.

		1918-19	1919-20
		Rs.	Rs.
Merchandise...	Indian	15,76,663	14,05,786
	Foreign	8,55,930	8,08,532
	Total ...	24,32,593	22,14,318
Treasure		Nil	Nil

Exports.

Merchandise...	Indian	10,67,104	15,15,505
	Foreign	Nil	380
	Total ...	10,67,104	15,15,885
Treasure		50,500	1,27,345

The decrease in imports is due to high prices of the chief articles of import, viz., khari salt, vegetables, flour, cocoanut oil, paper, betel-nuts, spices, hardware, metal, copper, salt, twist, stationery, etc. Exports recovered owing principally to increased export of dry fish, grains, brass metal, ghee, jute, gunny-bags, tobacco leaf, timber, hides, manures (bones).

III.—Frontier Trade.

272. The value of the trans-frontier trade of Bihar and Orissa with Nepal amounted to Rs. 518·43 lakhs, against Rs. 471·4 lakhs and Rs. 370·4 lakhs in the two previous years. The chief features of the year were a great falling off in the quantity of food-stuffs imported, but a large increase in the imports of hides, ghee and tobacco together with an increase in the prices of food-stuffs, oilseeds, and cattle. On the export side there was a great increase in the quantity of raw cotton and of foreign piece-goods exported to Nepal. Difficulty was experienced during the year owing to the shortage of Railway waggons. Frontier trade.

273. The aggregate value of imports rose from Rs. 293·85 lakhs to Rs. 297·16 lakhs. The principal articles of import into Bihar and Orissa from Nepal were food-grains, oilseeds, livestock, jute, ghee, tobacco, hides and skins and timber. Food-grains (including pulse), oilseeds, jute, ghee, tobacco and timber, including teak timber, accounted for about 78·2 per cent of the total value of imports in the year under report and animals and hides and skins for 13·2 per cent. The import of food-grains, chiefly of rice and paddy, during 1919-20, declined by 55 5 per cent from 4,907,815 maunds in 1918-19 to 2,182,858 maunds, the Nepal Government having prohibited the export of food-grains between July and September 1919 and again between the middle of December 1919 and the middle of March 1920. The effect of Imports.

the shortage of oilseeds throughout the province caused by the early cessation of the 1918 monsoon is reflected in the great increase in the value of oilseeds imported from Nepal from Rs. 32·01 lakhs to Rs. 59·86 lakhs.

Exports.

274. Beyond the recovery in the exports of cotton goods noted above, there was no notable feature in the export trade to Nepal as compared with previous years.

IV.—Trade by Rail and River.

Division and value of trade.

275. The main divisions of this trade (exclusive of animals and treasure) and its estimated value are exhibited in the following table :—

Year.	Imports into Bihar and Orissa from other provinces including Calcutta.	Exports from Bihar and Orissa to other provinces including Calcutta.	Imports into Bihar and Orissa from Calcutta.	Exports from Bihar and Orissa to Calcutta.
1	2	3	4	5
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
1918-19 ...	32,375,541	274,226,656	6,077,761	65,983,230
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
	31,03,78,239	57,79,48,036	15,17,14,343	17,46,62,252
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
1919-20 ...	34,635,924	259,871,819	8,836,396	78,611,656
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
	38,87,56,497	52,06,65,960	20,54,10,053	19,30,15,785

The import trade increased about 7 per cent in volume and 25 per cent in value, while the export trade decreased about 5 per cent in volume and 10 per cent in value. The increase in imports and the decrease in exports are attributed to the resumpion of imports since the end of the war and to the shortage of agricultural products caused by the early cessation of the monsoon in 1918, respectively.

Imports.

276. The principal articles of import were cotton—manufactured (Rs. 1,425 lakhs), grain and pulse (Rs. 563 lakhs), metals and manufactures thereof (Rs. 395·8 lakhs), railway plant and rolling stock (Rs. 220 lakhs), salt (Rs. 166·5 lakhs), oils (Rs. 159 lakhs), lac (Rs. 100·6 lakhs).

Exports.

277. The principal articles of export from Bihar and Orissa were—railway plant and rolling stock (Rs. 1,023 lakhs), coal and coke (Rs 933·5 lakhs), metals and manufactures thereof (Rs. 536 lakhs), oilseeds (Rs. 422·6 lakhs), grain and pulse (Rs. 348 lakhs), sugar (Rs. 293 lakhs), lac (Rs. 243·7 lakhs), tobacco (Rs. 204 lakhs), hides and skins (Rs. 202 lakhs), ghee (Rs. 106 lakhs).

Internal trade.

278. For the purposes of estimating internal trade by rail, the province is divided into four blocks known as the Patna City, Bihar, Chota Nagpur and Orissa blocks. The trade between these blocks was estimated at 36,870,000 maunds of goods. The most notable feature is the preponderance of traffic with Chota Nagpur—consisting chiefly of the export to Bihar of coal and coke and of timber and of the import of rice and metallic ores from Orissa and of pulses, lime and stone from Bihar.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Establishment.

279. The retention of the temporary appointment of 2nd Chief Engineer as a permanent measure was sanctioned by the Secretary of State for India. Certain changes were made in the distribution of jurisdictions of the several Divisions of the Orissa Circle. Two temporary subdivisions were opened under the Sanitary Works Division. The Special Works Division was reconstituted with three subdivisions. A temporary subdivision was formed at Chauliaganj under the Cuttack Division for the construction of the Ravenshaw College. **Administrative changes,**

280. The Imperial Service and the Provincial Service of Engineers were amalgamated into one Service and the Public Works Department was organized in three services, viz., (*i*) The Indian Service of Engineers, (*ii*) The "Provincial" Engineering Service, (*iii*) The "Subordinate" Engineering Service. A revised scale of pay was also sanctioned for Engineers. **Organization of the Public Works Department.**

The final orders of the Government of India were received in regard to the questions of the general organization of the Public Works Department and to the questions of accounts procedure and decentralization.

Buildings.

Imperial Military Works.

281. Collection of materials and manufacture of bricks for the construction of the Military buildings at Chandipur were in progress.

Imperial Civil Works.

282. The construction of the Post Office building at Kanke and Post and Telegraph Office at Pusa, was in progress. The Aviation ground at Gaya was completed and the Post and Telegraph Office building at Madhipura finished. A bungalow at Muzaffarpur was purchased for the joint office and residence of the Superintendent of Post Offices, Tirhut Division. **Post and Telegraph Offices.**

283. At Pusa the spur-work at Johnson's ghat was completed and progress made with the construction of a Rest House for Indian visitors. The Residency Overseer's quarters at Raxaul was completed. **Miscellaneous.**

Provincial Civil Works.

284. The construction of the double Munsifi at Buxar and of an additional building for the Sub-Treasury and Record-Room at Banki was approaching completion when the year closed. The construction of a Treasury Guards' barrack, Hajat and Malkhana at Jehanabad and of an additional Record-Room at Purulia was in progress. Witness sheds were erected in the Court compounds at Hazaribagh, Chatra and Phulbani. The new Record-Room at Dinapur was completed. Collection of materials was commenced for the construction of Subdivisional buildings at Latehar in the district of Palamau and for the additional Court building at Dumka. A house was acquired and materials were collected for the construction of the Civil Court Building at Gaya. **Court buildings.**

285. The construction of a new Circuit House at Chaibasa was started during the year while certain additions and alterations were carried out to the Circuit House at Balasore. **Circuit House.**

286. The new double-storied barrack in the Central Jail at Bhagalpur, was completed and work was started on the construction of a Tuberculosis Ward in the same jail. The new Hospital, Tuberculosis ward and separate Female Ward in the Central Jail, Gaya, were completed. The improvement of the water-supply to the Reformatory School and other works in progress at the Hazaribagh Central Jail were finished. The Jailor's quarters at the Dumka Jail and Warder's barracks at Kendrapara Sub-Jail were also finished. **Jails.**

Police.

287. Good progress was made with the construction of twelve Constables' barracks, one Sub-Inspector's and Writer Constables' quarters at Nawada, and two Sub-Inspectors' and two Head Constables' quarters at Buxar. A residence for the Principal, Constables' Training School at Chauliaganj (Cuttack), an Infectious Ward and Sweeper's shed for the Police Hospital, Puri, and Thana buildings at Bettiah, were nearing completion when the year closed. The work of the conversion of the old Opium Building into a Police-station at Bhabua was almost completed. Land was acquired for the re-construction of the Police-station buildings at Sasaram. Work on the construction of Reserve Police Lines at Chapra, Town Police Barrack, and subsidiary buildings at Khajanchihat in Purnea, quarters for three Sub-Inspectors and four Head-Constables at Araria and Police-station buildings at Kishanganj was in progress. The following works were completed during the year under review:—

(1) A double-storied barrack with cook-sheds for the Constables of the Reserve Police lines at Cuttack.

(2) Quarters for the Police Inspector at Nimapara.

(3) Constables' barrack at Chapra.

(4) Constables' barrack and quarters for 3 Sub-Inspectors and 5 Head-Constables at Dhanbad.

(5) Quarters for the Court Inspector at Chaibasa.

(6) Eight Police out-post buildings along the Nepal Frontier in the Kissenganj Subdivision, Purnea.

(7) An out-post building at Mithapur.

(8) Quarters for the Sawars of the mounted police in the Kotwali compound at Patna.

Education.

288. Good progress was made with the construction of new buildings for the Greer Bhumihar Brahman College, Muzaffarpur, and Ravenshaw College, Cuttack. The class rooms on the 1st floor of the Patna Collegiate School were converted into a hall for the Patna College. The High English School, Patna, was completed and a second storey erected over a portion of the building of the training school, Cuttack. Progress was made with the construction of a new building for the Practising Middle English School attached to the Cuttack Training School and with the extension of the Hostel for the Chapra Zila School. Land was acquired for the construction of a new Zila School building at Sambalpur.

Residences for the Head Master, Zila School, and for the Principal, Sanskrit College at Muzaffarpur, were nearly completed. A combined office and residence for the Inspector of Schools, Muzaffarpur, was finished.

The construction of a double storied Hostel building for 105 boys attached to the Ranchi Training School with quarters for the Hostel Superintendent and an isolated ward was taken in hand and about three-fourths of the work was done and the Hostel attached to the Industrial School in the same place was almost finished. Materials were collected for the construction of quarters for the teachers of the Pusa High English School and for a Training School for Muhammadan Teachers at Bastwara, Darbhanga.

The construction of a Hostel for 50 Hindu and Muhammedan boys with quarters for the Hostel Superintendent and certain additions to and alterations in the Purulia Zila School including the construction of a Hall were in progress.

Medical.

289. The construction of a Dissecting Block in connection with the Temple Medical School at Patna was nearly finished and that of the Isolation ward was started. A piece of ground was acquired for the play-ground for the Temple Medical School. Materials were collected for the construction of a Boarding House for the students of the Orissa Medical School and the

foundations started. The Dispensary buildings at Balandapara were completed and those at Khejuripara, Phiringia and Chandipara were in progress. The construction of a Leper Asylum at Cuttack was completed.

290. Sub-Registry Office buildings at Jellasore, Phuldaras, Islampur and Bikram were completed, while materials were collected for those at Dharamsala Katra, Dalsingserai, Rosera, Basantpur, Tikari and Sherghati. These were built on a new type plan. Registration.

291. The residence of the Executive Engineer, Sambalpur Division, was nearly completed. An office with residence for the Subdivisional Officer at Chapra was in progress. Public Works Department Buildings.

292. A monument was erected on the battle field of Buxar and special repairs done to the Arrah House. Monuments and Antiquities.

293. Two gate houses with electric fittings were constructed at Government House, Ranchi, while the work of providing additional accommodation for His Honour's suite over the second floor of the Government House at Puri was almost completed. The construction of a residence for the Political Agent, Orissa Feudatory States at Sambalpur, was in progress. A bungalow at Muzaffarpur and the old School building at Nawada were purchased, the former for the residence of the Civil Surgeon and the latter for that of the Second Officer. The Sub-Deputy Collector's residence at Gopalganj was completed. Residences for the Lieutenant-Governor and other Government officials.

294. Work on the New Council Chamber, Patna, was taken up in the second half of March 1920. Capital.

A start was made with the sewerage scheme sanctioned by the Government of India at an estimated cost of Rs. 5,35,351.

The temporary residence originally constructed for the Government Architect was converted into a permanent residence for the Assistant Government Architect. The temporary residences for the Deputy and Assistant Registrars of the High Court were also converted into permanent ones.

The residence for the 1st Assistant to the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Crime and Railways, was completed and those for two Indian Registrars of the Secretariat were reaching completion when the year closed.

The following Clerks' quarters were also built during the year under review:—

25 'C' type quarters for the High Court Clerks.

1 'A' „
1 'B' „
2 'C' „ } quarters for the office clerks of the Government Advocate.

4 Anglo-Indian Clerks' quarters.

14 sets of quarters for the Clerks of the Board of Revenue.

69 'C' type, 3 'B' type, 14 'A' and 5 'A1' type quarters for the Secretariat Clerks were in progress.

295. The levelling and dressing of the University area was taken in hand in January 1920 and work to the value of Rs. 11,000 was done. University.

296. The construction of the Tej Narayan Jubilee College, Bhagalpur, was in progress. Construction of quarters for the Assistant Surgeon and of an additional Indoor Ward for the Chatra Dispensary was in progress. Land was acquired for the construction of the Bayley Memorial Library, Bankipur, Contribution works.

General.

297. A statement of expenditure on Original Works, Civil Buildings (Provincial), including contributions is given below:—

	Rs.
Administration	5,84,986
Monuments and antiquities	19,556
Educational	7,11,353
Ecclesiastical	1,659
Law and Justice	1,62,089
Jails	93,748
Police	2,16,324
Medical	5,28,139
Miscellaneous	80,317
Total ...	24,98,171

Communications.

General.

298. As in the past year only works in progress from previous years, and works of an urgent character were taken up and carried out during the year.

The new road from the Government House at Patna leading to the Cantonment at Dinapur was completed and opened for light traffic only. The work of raising and widening the existing Bankipur-Dinapur road also reached completion. Further improvements were effected to the new alignment of the Patna-Gaya Road. A start was made with the widening of the metalled portion of the Grand Trunk Road between Chirkunda and Nirsa. The works of diverting the Cuttack-Sonpur Road between Harbhanga and Sitalpani and of improving the Angul-Tickerpara Road, 2nd section, remained in progress at the close of the year, while the improvements to the Cuttack-Sambalpur Road, 2nd section, 3rd portion, were finished.

Grand Trunk Road.

299. Additional waterways were provided in miles 293, 298 and 309 of the Grand Trunk Road. Preliminaries having been concluded, the preparation of the detailed project for the bridge over the Lilajan river was taken in hand. The bridge over the Izri river on the Chas-Gulbera road was completed, while that over the Gowain river on the same road was still in progress. A proposal was approved to bridge the Barakar river crossing the Giridih-Dumri Road. The construction of bridges over the Am Nala on the Sambalpur-Sonpur Road, the Ranj river and the Tengra Nala on the Raipur-Sambalpur Road and over the Nigra and the Matulia river on the Angul-Tickerpara Road, was begun and sufficient progress made on them. The bridge over the Nigra river at Matanga on the Cuttack-Angul Road was almost completed.

The causeway over the Khorkai river on the Chaibasa-Jamshedpur road remained unfinished at the end of the year.

Certain additions were made to the Dak Bungalow at Chaibasa.

The planting and maintaining of trees alongside roads were carried out as usual.

Miscellaneous Public Improvements.

General.

300. No new works of importance were taken up during the year; only works in progress were completed.

Protective Works.

301. The right bank of the river Ganges from the Civil Surgeon's compound to the east of the European Club at Bankipur has been protected. The revetments below the Bihar School of Engineering and the Recreation Bungalow at Gulzarbagh were reconstructed.

Drainage.

302. The drain under construction across the Race Course at Muzaffarpur was completed.

Tank.

303. A tank was excavated at Simdega, district Ranchi.

Railways.

304. There are no railways under the direct control of the Government of Bihar and Orissa. With the exception of the three following light railways of local importance which are subject to a certain measure of control by the Local Government, all the important lines are under the direct administration of the Government of India in the Railway Department (Railway Board) :— Administration.

	Gauge.	Mileage.
1. Arrah-Sasaram Light Railway	2′ 6″	65·26
2. Bakhtiyarpur-Bihar Light Railway... ...	2′ 6″	33·00
3. Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway	2′ 6″	23·83
Total		122·09

305. During the year under report, no new line was opened to traffic. The total mileage on the 31st March 1920, was therefore— Mileage.

	Miles.
1. Standard Gauge	1,660·75
2. Metre „	1,178·66
3. 2′ 6″ „	269·31
4. 2′ 0″ „	39·00
Total ...	3,147·72

306. The following lines were under construction or sanctioned for construction during the year :— Lines sanctioned or under construction.

Bengal-Nagpur Railway—

	Gauge.	Mileage.
Portion of the Raipur-Parbatipuram Section (from a point near Gurjabota to a point near Bhowani-Patna Road)	5′ 6″	92·00
Anara-Kargali	5′·6″	5·80
Onlajori-Sulapet with a branch to Badampahar ...	5′ 6″	21·75
Fatwa-Islampur	2′ 6″	27·00
Mayurbhanj Extension	2′ 6″	38·71

307. Authority was given by the Railway Board to undertake the following surveys during the year. Surveys sanctioned.

To the Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway Extension Company, Limited, for—

(*a*) A detailed survey for a line of railway on the metre gauge from Pachagarh to Dinajpur *viâ* Bodachakla Nischintipur and Bochaganja, distance of about 55 miles.

(*b*) A detailed survey for a line of railway on the metre gauge from Kissenganj to Nekmurd, a distance of about 20 miles.

(*c*) A detailed survey for a line of railway on the metre gauge from Pirganj to Bochaganj, a distance of about 8 miles.

To the Bengal-Nagpur Railway for a reconnaissance survey for a line of railway on the broad gauge, connecting the proposed South Karanpura Coalfield Railway with Manharpur, a station on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, a distance of about 200 miles.

308. Thirteen accidents of a minor character occurred during the year. There was no case of loss of life or serious injury to passengers. Accidents.

Canals.—Irrigation and Navigation.

[Administration Report of Irrigation Works, Bihar and Orissa, for the year 1919-20.[

Expenditure.

309. The transactions of the Irrigation Branch of the Public Works Department for the year 1919-20 relating to works of Irrigation and Navigation, are shown in the table below. Works which afford protection from flood or which facilitate drainage are reviewed separately and are not noticed in this report:—

Capital Account.

Heads.	Amount of construction estimate.	Expenditure during 1919-20.	Expenditure to end of 1919-20.	Balance for expenditure from 1st April 1920.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
MAJOR IRRIGATION WORKS—				
PRODUCTIVE IRRIGATION WORKS—				
Direct charges	5,26,76,595	4,459	5,24,30,106	2,46,489
Indirect charges... ...	15,25,735	223	15,31,121	—5,386
Total ...	5,42,02,330	4,682	5,39,61,227	2,41,103
PROTECTIVE IRRIGATION WORKS —				
Direct charges	89,07,638	1,38,422	83,10,246	5,97,392
Indirect charges	2,25,222	5,742	2,34,298	—9,076
Total ...	91,32,860	1,44,164	85,44,544	5,88,316
MINOR WORKS AND NAVIGATION—				
Direct charges	...	...	...	...
Indirect charges	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	...	...	...

Revenue Account.

Heads.	Receipts.	Working Expenses.			Net Revenue.
		Direct.	Indirect.	Total working expenses.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
MAJOR IRRIGATION WORKS*	30,16,323	15,22,322	1,26,603	16,48,925	13,67,398
MINOR WORKS AND NAVIGATION—					
Works for which only Revenue Accounts are kept.	5,712	25,925	1,478	27,403	—21,691
Works for which neither Capital nor Revene Accounts are kept.†	7,700	3,581	...	3,581	4,119

* Inclusive of the Dhaka and the Tribeni Canals.

† Teur and Saran Canals.

310. The following statements show the areas irrigated during the year compared with the average of the triennial period ending with March 1919 :—

Major Works (Productive).

	Orissa Canals.			Son Canals.			Total.		
	Kharif inclusive of hot weather.	*Rabi.*	Total.	*Kharif* inclusive of hot weather.	*Rabi*	Total.	*Kharif* inclusive of hot weather.	*Rabi.*	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Average of the Triennium 1916-19 ...	272,580	5,879	278,460	464,257	102,030	566,287	736,837	107,909	864,747
For 1919-20	283,261	(a) 6,574	289,835	462,500	(b) 94,783	557,283	745,761	(c) 101,357	847,118

(a) Season lease.

(b) Includes long lease 18,712 acres and season lease 75,065 acres.

(c) Includes long lease 18,712 acres and season lease 81,659 acres.

NOTE.—All collections for season leases (*Rabi*) are made in the following year (1920-21) but those for long leases are made during the year 1919-20.

Major Works (Protective).

	Tribeni Canal.			Dhaka Canal.			Total.		
	Kharif inclusive of hot weather.	*Rabi.*	Total.	*Kharif* inclusive of hot weather.	*Rabi.*	Total.	*Kharif* inclusive of hot weather.	*Rabi.*	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Average of the Triennium 1916-19 ...	47,881	...	47,881	6,045	414	6,459	53,926	414	54,340
For 1919-20	81,581	...	81,581	11,417	(a)1,701	13,118	92,998	(a)1,701	94,699

(a) Includes Seasons lease 1,666 acres.

Minor Works.

	Saran Canals.			Teur Canal.			Total.		
	Kharif inclusive of hot weather.	*Rabi.*	Total.	*Kharif* inclusive of hot weather.	*Rabi.*	Total.	*Kharif* inclusive of hot weather.	*Rabi.*	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Average of the Triennium 1916-19 ...	Canals	Closed	... ...	1,464	16	*1,480	1,464	16	1,480
For 1919-20	...	...	...	2,853	(a)254	†3,107	2,853	(a)254	3,107

(a) Season lease.

* Includes the Madhuban Zamindar's *zirat* land.

† Includes 268 acres of the Madhuban Zamindar's *zirat* land.

NOTE.—All collections for season lease (*Rabi*) are made in the following year 1920-21 and those for long leases are made during the year 1919-20.

Length of Canals.

311. The length of canals and distributaries in operation during the year 1919-20 compared with the previous year are as follows:—

	Orissa Canals.		Son Canals.		Tribeni Canal.		Dhaka Canal.		Teur Canal.		Saran Canals.	
	1918-19	1919-20	1918-19	1919-20	1918-19	1919-20	1918-19	1919-20	1918-19	1919-20	1918-19	1919-20
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
Main Canals (Irrigation) ...	223½	234½	208½	208½	61½	61½	3½	3½	6½	6½	Canals closed.	
Branch Canals (Irrigation) ...	103	103	148½	(a)148½	...	...	15½	15½	...	...		
Distributaries	1,293½	1,294½	1,234½	1,234½	164½	164½	23½	23½	6½	6½		
Of above—Navigation channels...	204½	205½	208½	208½	...	...	...	...	...	...		

* Canals closed since the 1st April 1894.

(a) The figure shown in the previous report was incorrect.

Navigation.

312. The following statement shows the traffic on the Navigab le canal during the year 1919-20 compared with the average triennium 1916-19:—

	Orissa Canals.		Son Canals.		Orissa Coast Canal.	
	Average for the triennium ending with March 1919.	For the year 1919-20.	Average for the triennium ending with March 1919.	For the year 1919-20.	Average for the triennium ending with March 1919.	For the year 1919-20.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
Length of canals open ...	204¾	205¼	...	208¾	95½	95½
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts	71,392	58,896	28,393	18,958	5,466	4,713
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Tonnage of boats by canal measurement.	449,965	361,830	85,868	39,625	29,617	12,414
Estimated weight of cargo exclusive of rafts.	154,001	104,644	23,744	15,283	10,146	1,791
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Estimated value of goods	1,15,13,902	1,03,52,951	19,54,670	14,54,057	6,38,324	3,86,116
Estimated value of rafts	1,63,760	2,26,491	3,58,077	2,54,893	21,870	20,460

Classification of Irrigation or Navigation Works.

313. The Classification of works dealt with in this review is as follows:—

I.—Major Works.—Of the four Major Irrigation Works in this Province, two viz., the Orissa and Son Canals, are classed as Productive and the other two viz., the Tribeni and Dhaka Canals, are Protiective Irrigation works:—

(a) The Orissa and the Son Canals were originally constructed from funds under the Imperial head "49—Irrigation", and were classed as "Productive", as it was expected that the net revenue derived from them would repay the annual interest on the capital invested. The expectation has never been realized in the case of the Orissa Canals system.

The Son system is, however, now paying a five per cent. interest. Further capital outlay on both these systems is incurred under the divided head "43—Minor Works and Navigation" and their Revenue Account is kept under the head "42—Major Works—Working Expenses" which is also a divided head. These canals are utilised both for irrigation and navigation.

(*b*) The Tribeni and Dhaka Canals which have been constructed from funds under the Imperial head "35" are not directly remunerative but serve as a protection against scarcity or famine in the tract of country concerned. The additional works outside the construction estimate, which were approved by the Government of India in 1916 and which provide additional drainage facilities across the canal to enable it to withstand the high floods which occur almost annually in that part of the country, have been completed except the Padai spill syphon which is under construction. The cost of these extra works is being charged to the head "35" under the Open Capital Account rules.

These canals are used for irrigation only.

II.—Minor Works and Navigation.—There are three canal systems under this class.

(*a*) *Orissa Coast Canal.*—No capital account is now kept; the cost of maintaining the canal is charged to the sub-head "Works for which only Revenue accounts are kept". The canal (95½ miles within this Province) is used for navigation only.

(*b*) *Teur* (*Madhuban*) *Canal.*—Neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept of this canal. It is a small work intended for irrigation only.

(*c*) *Saran Canals.*—These canals have been classified as works for which neither capital nor revenue accounts are kept. They are now maintained at the cost of two large concerns in the Saran District, the Managers having agreed to pay annually Rs. 500 each towards their maintenance.

The progress of the year for the works under each of the above heads is briefly stated in the following summary.

ORISSA CIRCLE.

Major Irrigation Works (Productive).

Orissa Canals.

314. The expenditure (direct charges) debited to the Capital Account of the Orissa Canals during the year was Rs. 1,299 only on account of the construction of a minor distributary at Salanpur from 21st chain of the 1st mile of No. 2 A Distributary of the High Level Canal, Range III. **Capital Account. Works in progress.**

315. The total expenditure on new works chargeable to the Revenue Account amounted to Rs. 5,04? against Rs. 7,263 in the previous year. No important work was undertaken. **Revenue Account. Extensions and Improvements.**

316. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,86,603 against Rs. 1,58,276 in the previous year. The Head works, main canals with their distributries, drainage and protective works were maintained in fair order. The increased cost was due to the closing of a large number of breaches in the canal banks caused by floods, and to the revetment constructed to protect the Taldanda canal from the erosion of the Mahanadi. **Maintenance and Repairs.**

317. During the year slightly over a mile of distributary channel was added. **Length of distributaries.**

Rainfall.

318. The average rainfall during the year at the 13 recording stations was 67·23 inches against an average of 58·55 inches for the previous 50 years. The rainfall of the year was normal and fairly well distributed but owing to the scanty fall in October the crops on unirrigated areas suffered considerably.

Irrigation.

319. The area irrigated was 289,835 acres against 285,199 acres in 1918-1919, the increase being due to new areas having some under long lease during the year. The total assessment for water rates on the area irrigated was Rs. 4,96,933 against Rs. 4,83,948 in 1918-1919, The outstanding balance of the net demand was almost *nil* at the end of the year.

Navigation.

320. The receipts from navigation tolls on the Orissa Canals amounted to Rs. 58,896 against Rs. 71,392 in the preceding year. The tonnage of boats decreased considerably owing to decline of traffic due to failure of crops.

Financial Results.

321. The revenue and working expenses (direct and indirect) were Rs. 5,95,604 and Rs. 4,97,092 respectively against Rs. 5,86,802 and Rs. 4,08,748 of the previous year leaving a net revenue of Rs. 98,512 equivalent to 37 per cent. only on the capital outlay. As noticed in the previous year's report the water rates on the canals have been enhanced, but the improvement which will be effected in the financial position of the canals will be very slight. The percentage of increase over the old rates is detailed below :—

For lands under long term lease	25 per cent.
For lands which take water only in seasons of short rainfall ...	100 per cent.
For lands under autumn rice under provincial lease ...	16⅔ per cent.

These rates are to come into force from next year.

Canal Closure.

322. The canals were closed for annual repairs for the number of days noted below :—

Name of canal.	Period of closure.
Taldanda Canal	30 days
Machgaon „	31 „
Kendrapara „	32 „
Gobri „	32 „
Gobri Extension Canal	54 „
Patamundi Canal	32 „
High Level Canal Range I	57 „
„ „ „ „ II	63 „
„ „ „ „ III	63 „
Jajpur Canal	62 „

Floods.

323. There were no severe storms during the year but a succession of high floods occured from June to the middle of September. In particular the Kushbhadra, Bhargovi and Daya rivers caused extensive damage to agricultural lands in the Puri District. A contour survey of the country was undertaken during the year for devising means for the effective drainage of the affected tract. The survey was in progress when the year ended, Levels were taken for about 30 square miles.

Minor Works and Navigation.

Orissa Coast Canal.

324. The canal (95½ miles in this Province) was maintained in fair order and was open to traffic throughout the year. Range V of the canal was badly silted up. Some silt-clearance was done by dredging in 1917-18, but no progress could be effected in the year under report on account of the dredger being out of order and remaining under repair in the Jobra Work shops.

No new works were carried out. The total cost of maintenance (direct and indirect) amounted to Rs. 27,403 against Rs. 35,570 of the previous year. The gross receipts were Rs. 5,712. Export through the canal was low during the year on account of partial failure of crops. The rainfall of the year was normal and fairly well-distributed.

SON CIRCLE.

MAJOR IRRIGATION WORKS (PRODUCTIVE).

Son Canals.

325. The total capital outlay (direct charges) on the system up to end of 1919-20 was Rs. 2,59,64,386 of which Rs. 3,230 only represents the expenditure during 1919-20:— **Capital Accounts.**

The total expenditure on works only in 1919-20 was Rs. 7,182 as detailed below:—

	Rs.
(1) Constructing 19 permanent outlets in the Daudnagar subdivision	2,164 (in progress).
(2) Constructing 13 permanent outlets for Chowsa branch canal	1,790 (completed).
(3) Constructing 37 permanent outlets in Daudnagar subdivision	1,210 (in abeyance).
(4) Constructing 17 permanent outlets in place of temporary ones in the Bhojpur distributary	1,855 (completed).
(5) Preliminary works in connection with irrigation projects in the Bhabua subdivision	163 (completed).

326. The total expenditure during the year on extensions and improvements amounted to Rs. 22,038 and was incurred mostly on quarters for the Revenue staff and on rest-sheds. **Revenue Account, Extensions and Improvements.**

327. The anual repairs to the canals and head works were carried out during the year at a total expenditure of Rs. 2,57,152 against Rs. 2,64,070, in the previous year. **Maintenance and Repairs.**

328. The average rainfall of the 12 stations in the three divisions was 47·92 inches compared with an average of 39·92 inches and 46·38 inches in 1918-19 and 1917-18, respectively, and of 39·67 for the previous 37 years. The rainfall during the year was well-distributed except in the month of August. No difficulty was experienced in irrigation. **Rainfall.**

329. The area irrigated during the year was 557,238 acres against 639,404 acres of the preceding year. This large decrease is mainly in the *rabi* area (94,783) which in 1918-19 was about three times the normal area owing to the failure of the rains in September and October. The total assessment for water-rates amounted to Rs. 21,04,444 of which Rs. 21,03,382 were realised in full during the year and the balance Rs. 1,062 remitted. The considerable increase viz., Rs. 2,50,364 in water-rate receipts during the year under review is due to large *rabi* irrigation during 1918-19, the demand for which was adjusted during the year under report. **Irrigation.**

330. The receipts from navigation amounted to Rs. 18,958 against Rs. 28,393 of the previous year, and an average of Rs. 21,210 of the preceding five years. **Navigation Receipts.**

331. The gross receipts and working expenses (direct and indirect) were respectively, Rs. 22,20,709 and Rs. 8,71,996 against Rs. 19,96,830 and Rs. 8,24,813 of the previous year. The net receipts after deducting working expenses amounted to Rs. 13,48,713 equivalent to 5·01 per cent. on the capital outlay, and after meeting the interest charges of the year (Rs. 8,84,994-0-0), a balance of Rs. 4,63,719 was left against the accumulated arrears of interest amounting to Rs. 1,96,89,063. **Financial Results.**

Canal Closure.

332. There were no canal closures for annual repairs during the year except for one branch (Patna Canal) which was closed for 31 days.

Floods.

333. There were two floods in the Son river, the first flood occuring in August 1919, when both the canals had to be kept closed for 17 consecutive days. During the second flood, which was practically a continuation of the first, the canals remained closed for $6\frac{7}{8}$ days. Both the floods were severe in nature and the rubble packing above the middle wall was considerably damaged at two places.

Flushing Operations.

334. The Main Eastern Canal was flushed from 17th to 21st July, 21st September to 27th October and 6th to 19th November. The flushing operation did not keep pace with the influx of silt in the canal. The quantity of silt removed by the flushing was 4 lakhs against $7\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs deposited. Owing to long closure the demand for canal water was keen and therefore, the quantity admitted into the canal was utilised more for irrigation than for scouring the canal bed. The maximum discharge passed down was 2,254 cusecs against 2,218, cusecs of the previous year.

The Main Western Canal was flushed thrice from 18th to 21st July, 21st to 27th September and 7th to 30th November. The flushes were useful in scouring the silt from the bed of the canal. The maximum discharge sent down the canal was 4,239 cusecs on 21st July. About 121,160 c.ft. of silt were removed.

43.—*Minor Works and Navigation for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept.*

Investigation in connection with possible Irrigation Schemes.

335. The survey works in connection with possible reservoir sites in the Butana valley in the Palamau District were in progress during the year.

A preliminary examination was made during the year of some of the tributaries of the Son river in the Palamau District to see whether the supply in the river could be supplemented in times of low supply. The survey was completed and the report was being framed at the end of the year.

Some minor surveys in connection with the Sakri river in the Gaya District were carried out during the year under review.

GANDAK CIRCLE.

Major Irrigation Works (Protective).

Tribeni Canal.

Capital Account.

336. Works included in the Schedule of incomplete works chargeable to the construction estimate of the project and other works subsequently sanctioned as chargeable to the open capital account are in progress. The total expenditure (direct and indirect) debited to the Capital Account amounted to Rs. 1,44,164, during the year.

Works completed.

337. The construction of the Bhora Aqueduct at mile 45, 1,120 feet, the syphon in the 36th mile for the Bela Babu's *pain* and some other works which were started last year were completed during the year under report. The canal was excavated up to its full length ($61\frac{1}{4}$ miles).

Works in progress.

338. The following works were in progress :—

(1) A spill syphon at 48 mile 3,812 feet of the canal.

(2) Two superpassages over the Lauriya distributary in connection with the Bela Babu's syphon.

(3) Rangi Distributary.

The annual survey of the Gandak river at the Head works of the Canal showed that the rapid was retrograding considerably. A scheme for placing a boulder barrage across the river to eliminate the effect of the rapid and to supply water for the *rabi* season was under preparation.

339. A sum of Rs. 5,578 was spent on extensions and improvements. Revenue Account—Extensions and Improvements.

340. The cost of ordinary maintenance of the canal including silt clearance, cutting of jungle, construction of a bell-bandh and repairs to syphons and distributaries amounted to Rs. 1,13,337 during the year. Maintenance and Repairs.

341. The construction of the Rangi distributary at the tail end of the canal was still in progress. All the masonry works of this distributary were completed and the earthwork carried out for 12 out of 18 miles during the year. Three projects for village channels were sanctioned during the year and were awaiting formal possession of land being given to this Department. Distributaries, village channels and drainage channels.

It is interesting to note that considerable activity is now being shown on the part of the villagers in constructing village channels. Permanent outlets are also being built. These two factors are expected to result in a large increase in area under irrigation with great improvement in control and distribution. All drainage channels proposed to be constructed for the canal were completed during the year.

342. The rainfall was considerably below the normal and in particular the failure of rain during the Hathia resulted in a keen demand for water which the canal was able to meet. Ramnagar and Manihari had a rainfall of only 56·70 and 50 51 inches, respectively, against 83·00 and 65·51 inches of the preceding year. The total average rainfall of six stations during the year was 54·64 inches against an average of 75·68 inches for the last nine years. Rainfall.

343. The floods in the river Gandak were of an ordinary nature, the highest flood which reached a level of 969·80 during the year being lower than that of the previous year 0·45 or 8·15 below the highest recorded level (1902). No damage was done to the canal. The opening of the canal for irrigation were delayed till the 2nd July due to non-completion of the silt clearance work in one of its reaches owing to labour difficulties. Floods.

344. The total area irrigated was 81,581 acres against 57·454 acres of the preceding year and an average of 47,881 acres for the previous three years. Irrigation.

345. The total working expenses (direct and indirect charges) amounted to Rs. 2,61,311 while the gross receipts were Rs. 1,73,865 against Rs. 1,28,185 of the previous year. The net loss to Government was therefore Rs. 87,446 against Rs. 1,58,952 of the previous year. 8·10 per cent. of the demand remained uncollected at the end of the year. The long lease system which was introduced in 1918-1919 is growing in popularity, the area which came under this lease having increased during the year. The rate for long leases was increased by four annas per acre, and that for season leases by twelve annas per acre ; these rates will come into force next year. It is doubtful however if the canal will ever be a profitable investment. Financial Results.

346. The preparation of the project for the proposed extension of the Tribeni Canal was just completed at the end of the year. Tribeni Canal—Extension Scheme.

Dhaka Canal.

347. There was no Capital expenditure on the canal during the year under review. Capital Account.

348. No new works were executed during the year. Revenue Account—Extensions and Improvements.

349. A sum of Rs. 8,302 was spent on ordinary maintenance. Maintenance and Repairs.

350. The total rainfall of the year was 48·43 inches of the previous year against an average of 55·97 miles for the last 14 years. There was a Rainfall.

high demand for canal water in the latter part of the season owing to unfavourable rainfall. Owing to the simultaneous fall of the river Lalbakia the supply was inadequate. The crops in the leased area were irrigated with some difficulty due to the absence of the *tatil* system. This has now been introduced The construction of village channels by the cultivators is also expected to facilitate distribution. The supply during the *rabi* season was ample.

There was a considerable increase in the area that came under irrigation during the year. The total area irrigated was 13,118 acres against 8,846 acres of the preceding year and an average of 6,459 acres for the last three years.

Financial Results.

351. The gross receipts and working expenses of the year amounted to Rs. 26,145 and Rs. 18,526, respectively, against Rs. 22,137 and Rs. 24,176, respectively, of the previous year. The net revenue which amounted to Rs. 7,619 was 1·30 per cent. on the capital outlay. The area which came under long lease was double that of the previous year. The rate for this lease was increased by four annas per acre, while the rates for season leases were increased by twelve annas under *Kharif* irrigation and four annas under *rabi* irrigation. These increased rates will come into force from next year.

Minor Works and Navigation.

Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept.

The Teur (Madhuban) Canal.

352. This small canal was maintained in good order and only necessary repairs to the regulators, bridges and bungalows were carried out at a total cost of Rs. 1,783 (excluding establishment charges).

The rainfall of the year was 37·41 against 73·70 inches of the previous year. Owing to the severe drought there was a keen demand for canal water during September and October. This demand was successfully met as the supply in the river was sufficient throughout the irrigation season.

The total area irrigated during the year was 3,107 acres against 2,001 acres of the previous year. The total receipts of the year amounted to Rs. 6,602 against Rs. 4,789 of the previous year.

Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept.

Saran Canals.

353. The canals are closed to irrigation. They were maintained at the cost of the Managers of the Maniara and Saddowa Concerns who have agreed to contribute annually Rs. 500 each towards their maintenance. The charges for maintenance amounted to Rs. 723 exclusive of the cost of establishment.

Preliminary Investigations—Eastern Circle.

354. Some discharge observations were taken in the rivers Kiul and Anjan in the District of Monghyr in connection with the Kiul Irrigation project and a survey of the Mokameh Tal in the Patna District was made during the year.

Western Circle.

355. A detailed survey was carried out for the tank project at Khunti in the Singhbhum district. Further investigations however are needed with a view to ascertain if the scheme would be financially sound.

Hydro-Electric Survey.

356. Further investigations were made into the water power potentialities of the perennial hill streams in the districts of Gaya, Shahabad, Ranchi, Sambalpur and the Mayurbhanj State, but the majority of the schemes for generating electric energy therefrom were not found to be practicable. The following schemes were found to be promising:—

(1) *Subarnarekha fall (Ranchi District)*—Expected to give 50,000 H. P. with a fall of 550 feet and discharge of 1,000 cusecs in the 9 dry months.

(2) *Dumargarhi fall (Ranchi District)*—Expected to give some 9,000 to 10,000 H. P. with a fall of 500 feet and discharge of 200 cusecs.

Further investigation on these is proceeding.

Embankment and Drainage.

[The Embankment and Drainage Report for the year 1919-20.]

Classification of Embankments.

357. The embankments are divided into the following classes—

(*a*) Embankments maintained at the expense of Government :—

(*i*) in Orissa,

(*ii*) under Schedule D.

(*b*) Embankments not Government property but maintained by Government under the contract system.

(*c*) Embankments not Government property but maintained by Government officers as public embankments under the provisions of Sections 47-58 of Act II (B. C.)of 1882.

Expenditure.

358. The expenditure on works and repairs during the year (exclusive of the book charges on Establishment and Tools and Plant) amounted to Rs. 1,70,160 against Rs. 1,74,362 in the previous year.

Length of Embankments.

359. The total length of embankments of all classes maintained by Government in the province during the year was 816 miles 754 feet, protecting an area of 7,616·90 square miles. There were the following increases in the length of embankments :—

(*a*) The addition of the Chitreswar embankment 1 mile 720 ft. long on the left bank of the Mahanadi on the Cuttack District (opposite Cuttack).

(*b*) The construction of an embankment 800 feet long in the village of Daudpur in Dinapur (Patna District).

Floods.

360. During the year high floods occurred in village in the Mahanadi, the Katjuri, all the rivers in the Puri district and the Subarnarekha. In the Eastern and Gandak Circles the floods generally were normal but the Chandan river rose in August to within one foot of the crest of the embankment without, however, causing any damage.

In the Gandak river the floods were comparatively low but in the Ganges the floods were heavy and the level at the Bazidpur and Gupta Embankments in the Monghyr district was nearly equal to the highest recorded. The embankments, however, were not breached.

Breaches.

361. In the Orissa Circle several breaches occurred.

In embankment No. 88 B, ituated on the right side of the Daib, the river encroached badly on the bank threatening the village Erara close to it. Nearly a quarter of a mile of the Surua left embankment No. 95 B (2nd mile) was completely swept away. Part of the revetment at Bogla Groynes slipped during the flood. A cut was made by some villagers in the Kushbhadra right embankment (Puri) during the flood, and as a result a large area of land was covered up with sand, and rendered unfit for cultivation, and the Athanala, East Kania, Surlake, Sonamai and Nayanadi embankments, were over-topped. The culprits were prosecuted and suitably punished..

A number of scours and erosions occurred in the Gandak Circle, but there were no breaches of a dangerous nature. The Tirhut embankment was badly encroached by a branch channel of the Gandak in the 39th and 40th miles. A small spur was put in to divert the current and to stop further erosion but it was washed away by the high flood in September. The construction of a cross dam at this place was begun at the close of the year.

The Champaran embankment was again badly attacked at village Dariya where the Lalbegia nala pierces it opposite 48¾ to 49½ miles. Five special spurs were constructed to divert the course of the river and protect the affected part. The channel in the 64th mile of the Sangrampur embankment which was showing signs of silting up during the last two years has again formed an important stream, and towards the end of the monsoon two spurs in this mile were considerably damaged. Both of these were properly repaired.

In the Bazidpur embankment (District Darbhanga) the Bhura sluice at 5½ miles was greatly damaged and will be partially rebuilt.

In the Gupta bandh the river side slope in the first 10 miles was badly scoured and a portion below 10th mile washed away. The flood water entering through the gap did some damage to crops.

Surveys and Investigations.

362. In the Orissa Circle a project was sanctioned for protecting certain lands in the Khurda Khasmahal from the floods of the Kuakhai by extending the Kuakhai right embankment at Mancheswar (Cuttack) up to the Railway embankment. A contour survey and investigation of the drainage of the Kushbhadra-Bhargovi doab in the Puri District was in progress when the year closed.

In the Gandak Circle a preliminary survey was made in connection with the Punwa bandh (District Darbhanga) with the result that a contour survey was considered necessary. The project for extensions of the Gupta bandh as noticed in the previous year's report was abandoned.

Original works.

363. The total outlay on original works amounted to Rs. 68,117 against Rs. 72,171 of the preceding year.

In the Orissa Circle the works that remained unfinished at the end of the previous year were completed.

In the Eastern Circle the raising of the Bankipur-Dinapore Road surface and constructing an earthen bandh on the river side was completed during the year.

In the Gandak Circle the Gogri bandh (Monghyr) has been declared a public embankment under the Bengal Embankment Act, II of 1882, to be maintained by the officers of Government at the cost of the zamindars benefited.

Repairs.

364. The total amount spent on repairs was Rs. 1,02,043 against Rs. 1,02,191 in the preceding year. Of this Rs. 40,050 was spent in the Orissa Circle, Rs 53,342 in the Gandak and Rs. 8,651 in the Eastern Circle.

The amount spent on ordinary maintenance and special repairs to the Gandak Takavi embankments under contract was Rs. 42,254 exclusive of the percentage charges of Establishment and Tools and Plant against Rs, 32,861 in the preceding year.

Four important retired lines of embankments were sanctioned for the Puri District but only two were taken up during the year under review. Two stone spurs were constructed on the Chandan embankment at Banka (Bhagalpar) and three earthen on Bhagalpur Road embankment at Madhipura.

Three new spurs at 8th mile (Mangerpal Charki) and three spurs at 21st mile of the Saran embankment were constructed and the two unfinished spurs in the Champaran embankment (47th mile) were completed during the year. Three new spurs were also constructed in the Tirhut embankment to check the scour in the 29th mile. The work of constructing a cross dam in the 40th mile was in progress when the year closed.

Drainage.

365. The work of providing block-pitching in the riverside slope of the Pembranda Char in the district of Darbhanga was completed during the year under report.

There are no drainage works in this province constructed under the Bengal Drainage, Sanitary Drainage or Embankment Act excepting one small scheme known as the Rajmahal Drainage Scheme completed in 1902 and maintained by the Civil Officers under the Bengal Drainage Act, VI of 1880.

CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Imperial Revenue and Finance.

366. The following statement shows the Imperial revenue and expenditure for the year 1919-20 compared with the figures for 1918-19:— Imperial receipts and expenditure.

RECEIPTS.

[Figures are in thousands of rupees.]

Major heads.	Actuals, 1918-19.	Actuals 1919-20.	Better.	Worse.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I. Land Revenue...	73,76	75,29	1,53	...
II. Opium	5,30	4,80	...	50
III. Salt	1	1	...	...
IV. Stamp	37,09	42,65	5,56	...
V. Excise	30,98	32,26	1,28	...
VII. Customs	1	1	...	...
VIII. Income-tax	16,03	23,57	7,54	...
XI. Tributes	85	1,01	16	...
XII. Interest	2	2	...	...
XXII. Receipts in aid of superannuations, etc.	72	70	...	2
XXV. Miscellaneous	5	9	4	...
XXIX. Irrigation Major works—Public Works Department.	13,67	15,08	1,41	...
XXX. Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation—				
(1) By Civil Department ...	24	26	2	...
(2) By Public Works Department ...	12	12	...	...
XXXI. Civil Works	25	29	4	...
Transfer between Imperial and Provincial Revenues.	53,28	57,83	...	4,55
TOTAL ...	1,25,82	1,38,33	17,58	5,07

EXPENDITURE.

[Figures are in thousands of rupees.]

Major head.	1918-19.	1919-20.	Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1.—Refunds and drawbacks	59	88	29	...
2.—Assignments and compensation ...	49	49	...	...
3.—Land Revenue	7,69	6,74	...	95
5.—Salt	77	77	...	...
6.—Stamps	1,12	1,21	9	...
7.—Excise	1,60	2,31	71	...
9.—Customs	15	17	2	...
10.—Income-tax	23	26	3	...
14.—Interest on other obligations	1,42	2,07	65	...
18.—General Administration	2,57	2,90	33	...
23.—Ecclesiastical	37	38	1	...
26-B.—Scientific and other Miscellaneous Departments.	...	20	20	...
27.—Territorial and Political Pensions ...	55	48	...	7
28.—Civil Furlough and Absentee Allowances ...	11	5	...	6
29.—Superannuation allowances and pensions ...	3	4	1	...
30.—Satiqnery and Printing	38	14	...	24
32.—Miscellaneous	33	11	...	22
33.—Famine Relief	57	5,41	4,84	...
35.—Construction of Protective Irrigation Works.	1,33	1,41	8	...
42.—Irrigation—Major Works (working expenses)	7,17	7,61	44	...
42.—Irrigation—Interest on Debt ...	12,06	11,93	...	13
43.—Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation—				
(1) By Civil Department ...	2	3	1	...
(2) By Public Works Department ...	1,44	1,48	4	...
45.—Civil Works—				
(1) Civil	...	1	1	...
(2) Civil—Public Works Department	3,62	2,38	...	1,24
49.—Outlay on Irrigation Works ...	—4	—1	3	...
TOTAL ...	44,57	49,45	7,79	2,91

Receipts.—There was a net increase of 12,51 compared with the actuals for 1918-19 which was due mainly to the increases under I-Land Revenue (1,53)-IV, Stamps (5,56), V-Excise (1,28), VIII-Income Tax (7,54), XXIX-Irrigation-Major Works—Direct Receipts (1,41). The increase under Land Revenue was due to larger recoveries on account of Survey and Settlement operations and that under stamps to the general resumption of trade after the war partly to the increase in utilization owing to scarcity. The improvement in excise receipts was due to a good winter harvest, as a result of which the excise shops fetched good prices at the auction sale, that under Income-tax is due to excess profit duty (2,25) and larger receipts from Super-tax under the new scheme of taxation. The increase under Irrigation was due to larger demand for irrigation for the *rabi crops* in Son Canals, to the issue of leases at enhanced rates and partly to the improvement in canal traffic owing to railway congestion.

Expenditure.—There was a net increase of 4,88 in expenditure compared with 1918-19. The large increase under Famine Relief was a result of the failure of the 1918 monsoon, while the decrease under Land Revenue was due to smaller expenditure on Survey and Settlement and that under 45-Civil Works—Public Works Department to less expenditure on imperial buildings.

Land Revenue.

[*See* Chapter II of the Report.]

Canal Revenue.

[*See* Chapter IV of the Report—Canals.]

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

Sources of Revenue other than land.

Customs.

[Report on the Maritime Trade of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1919-20.]

367. The revenue realized during the year, which consisted of miscellaneous receipts only, was Rs. 878 against Rs. 705 in 1918-19. **Customs revenue.**

The transactions in the Chandbali warehouses were revived during the year under review and 8,000 maunds of salt were imported under bond of which 2,566 maunds were issued; but the duty (Rs. 3,675), which was as usual paid in Calcutta, did not form part of the revenue of this Province. No refunds were granted.

368. In Balasore there were 13 prosecutions. A sum of Rs. 51 was realized in fines against Rs. 26 in 1918-19. **Breach of Customs Laws.**

369. No proceedings were taken under the Act in any of the districts of the Province. **Indian Merchandise Marks Act.**

Salt.

370. Eight thousand maunds of Liverpool salt was imported into the bonded warehouses at Chandbali for which duty was paid, as usual, in Calcutta. Northern India salt continued to be imported into the Province, but the priority system was abolished from 1st October 1919, the district officers being granted priority indents only when the condition of the salt market made it necessary to intervene. **Import.**

371. The quantity of salt consumed in the Province were about 5,270,028 maunds against 5,196,667 maunds last year. The average consumption per head of population was about six seers and one chitak. The average wholesale price per maund was Rs. 3-7-0 against Rs. 3-12-6 in 1918-19. **Consumption and prices.**

372. No offence against the salt laws was reported during the year 1919-20 against 5 cases in the previous year. The absence of cases is attributed to the prohibition of prosecution for petty offences. **Preventive measures.**

Trade in saltpetre.

373. The number of saltpetre refineries in Bihar was 235 against 253 in the previous year. The quantity of crude saltpetre dissolved was 291,180 maunds and that of refined saltpetre produced was 200,336 maunds against 330,279 maunds and 207,453 maunds, respectively in the previous year. The quantity of salt educed in the manufacture and refinement of saltpetre was 26,584 maunds out of which 25,650 maunds were removed on payment of duty against 28,611 maunds in 1918-19.

Excise.

[Report on the Administration of the Excise Department, Bihar and Orissa, for 1919-20.]

Administrative changes.

374. The principal administrative changes which took place during the year 1919-20 were :—

(1) The enhancement of the Treasury prices of opium in the districts of Shahabad, Saran, Champaran, Palamau, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga and Sambalpur.

(2) The settlement of certain opium shops in Balasore on a sliding scale of fee as an experimental measure.

(3) The increase of duty on *ganja* with effect from the 1st April 1919 in the whole of the province.

(4) The abolition of the sale of country spirit of 70° U. P. strength in the shops situated on the Nepal Border in the districts of Champaran and Darbhanga.

(5) The revision of the maximum retail prices of country spirit in the district of Gaya and in the shops on the Nepal border in the districts of Champaran and Darbhanga.

(6) The restoration of the maximum prices in the rural areas of the district of Saran.

(7) The abolition of maximum prices in the town area of the district of Ranchi.

(8) The enhancement of the minimum price of the country spirit of 70° U. P. strength in the colliery area in Dhanbad.

Staff and organisation.

375. As a further step towards the completion of the Excise reorganisation scheme, 2 Inspectors and 43 Sub-Inspectors were added to the cadre and the existing 70 clerks of the Excise and Salt Department in the mufassal Excise offices were regraded.

Legislation.

376. There was no change during the year in the laws and statutory rules.

Local Advisory Committees.

377. Advisory Committees were convened twice during the year for all municipal towns (except Madhupur in the district of Santal Parganas where no meeting was held in July) and for the rural area of the district of Palamau, and once for the rest of the rural areas of the Chota Nagpur Division.

The following were among the more important subjects discussed at the meetings held in July :—

(*i*) The curtailment of hours of sale in liquor and *tari* shops.

(*ii*) The teaching of temperance in primary schools.

(*iii*) The suppression of cocaine-eating and the *madak* and *chandu* smoking habit.

(*iv*) The prohibition of drinking of country spirit and *tari* on the premises of shops.

(*v*) The circulation among the members of the Advisory Committees of a list of shops with boundaries at least a fortnight before the meeting of the Committee is held.

(*vi*) The opening of tea shops as a counter-attraction to intemperance among the labouring classes.

(*vii*) The feasibility of the introduction of the tree-tax system for tapping *tar* trees.

(*viii*) The fixation of the minimum price of *ganja*.

(*ix*) The increase in the rate of duty on country spirit.

(*x*) The prohibition of the sale of country spirit to Municipal mehtars on their pay day and the following two days and to motor drivers while on duty.

(*xi*) The prohibition of cooking and serving food to customers at drink shops.

(*xii*) The employment of informers in detecting excise and opium cases after careful enquiry regarding their character.

Committees were again formed in December 1919 both for municipal towns and for rural areas of the Chota Nagpur Division to advise on the settlement proposals for 1920-21 and in deference to their recommendations 5 country spirit shops and one *tari* shop were abolished, and the sites of 5 country spirit shops, 7 *tari* shops, 4 *ganja* shops, 2 opium shops and 2 outstills were changed; one outstill shop was opened.

Results of settlement.

378. The settlement resulted in a total increase of Rs. 10,40,889 which is due mainly to the raising of maximum prices for the retail sale of country spirit with effect from the 1st April 1920.

Revenue.

379. The total excise revenue of the year amounted to 129 lakhs of rupees, an increase of 5 lakhs. The increase was shared by every head except opium and *pachwai*. The incidence of excise revenue was 5 annas and 11 pies against 5 annas and 8 pies in the preceding year.

Country spirit.

380. The total revenue from country spirit under the contract supply system amounted to Rs. 57,95,962 against Rs. 54,37,164 while the revenue from outstills amounted to Rs. 7,56,980 against Rs. 7,83,754 in the previous year. There was an increase in consumption amounting to 94,905 gallons of which 73 per cent was due to the extension of the distillery area in the district of Hazaribagh and Ranchi and in the Jamshedpur area of Singhbhum. Other causes given for the increase are the restoration of maximum prices in Saran, the reduction of prices and consequent reduction of smuggling of Nepalese liquor into Champaran, and better harvests.

The Excise Commissioner's Report contains a statement showing that in districts where there have been no outstills since the formation of the province consumption has decreased 15 per cent while revenue has increased 30 per cent. The policy of increasing revenue while decreasing consumption has thus been successful.

The number of licenses for the retail sale of country spirit (contract and outstill) was reduced from 1,875 to 1,852.

Revision of rates of duty.

381. The rates of duty were enhanced generally by 10 annas a gallon L. P. in the whole of the province except in the Orissa Division, the district of Singhbhum, the shops on the Nepal border in the districts of Champaran, Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga, the non-colliery area in the Dhanbad Subdivision (Manbhum) and the new distillery area of the district of Ranchi where the rates remained unchanged. In the district of Hazaribagh the rates of duty were raised by 10 annas per gallon in the Giridih Subdivision only. In the rural areas of Champaran, Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga with the exception of the Nepal border shops the rates of duty on strengths higher than 70 U. P. was raised from Rs. 2 to Rs. 2-8-0 per L. P. gallon.

Tari.

382. The revenue derived from *tari* rose from Rs. 15,19,848 to Rs. 15,83,311. The total number of licenses for the retail sale of fermented *tari* was 5,709 against 5,775 in 1918-19.

Pachwai.

383. License fees for the retail sale and home brewing of *pachwai* brought Rs. 1,60,981 against Rs. 1,78,127 in 1918-19. The total number of licenses issued for the retail sale of *pachwai* was 353 against 364 in 1918-19.

Foreign liquors.

384. Foreign liquors do not play an important part in the excise administration of Bihar and Orissa. The revenue derived from license fees in 1919-20 amounted to Rs. 34,814 against Rs. 33,708 in 1918-19.

Ganja.

385. There was a decrease of 77 maunds in the quantity of *ganja* consumed in the province with an increase in the revenue from Rs. 25,05,072 to Rs. 26,80,857. The number of licenses for the retail sale of *ganja* decreased from 1,241 to 1,233.

Bhang.

386. There was decrease of 32 maunds in quantity of *bhang* consumed in the province while the revenue increased from Rs. 55,578 to Rs. 62,386. The number of licenses issued for the retail sale of *bhang* was 281 against 281 in 1918-19.

Charas.

387. The revenue from *charas* was only Rs. 652.

Opium.

388. The total quantity of opium consumed within the Province fell from 818 maunds to 736 maunds accompanied by a decrease in the revenue from Rs. 18,45,620 to Rs. 17,78,819.

The main cause of decrease in consumption was the check on smuggling into the Midnapur district of Bengal caused by the introduction of a system of settling certain opium shops in Balasore on a sliding scale of fees. The issue price of opium was again considerably increased, the general rate being now Rs. 50 a seer.

The total number of licenses issued for the retail sale of opium was 541 against 548 in 1918-19.

Cocaine.

389. The number of persons convicted of illicit sale and possession of cocaine was 15 against 11 in 1918-19. The total quantity of the drug seized was 1 ounce 10 drams and 17 grains against 4 ounces 8 drams and 19 grains in 1918-19. The decrease in the quantity seized is due to the stoppage of fresh supply of the drug from its source caused by the war and the consequent prohibitive price at which the drug was sold during the year.

Excise offences.

390. Two thousand and eleven persons were prosecuted for offences against the Excise and Opium Acts against 1,811 in the preceding year.

The total number of persons convicted was 1,799 against 1,604 in the preceding year. The percentage of conviction to arrest was 89·4 against 88·5. The number of persons imprisoned for offences against the Excise and Opium laws was 567 against 616 in the preceding year.

Stamps.

Revenue.

391. The revenue under the Stamp and Court Fees Act amounted to Rs. 84,68,382 against Rs. 73,56,244 in the preceding year. There was an increase under both judicial and non-judicial stamps of Rs. 6,18,097 and Rs. 4,94,041, respectively.

Judicial stamps.

392. The increase of Rs. 6,18,097 under this head is ascribed to increase of litigation owing to high prices, to indebtedness and to the institution of a large number of cases for commutation of rents in Gaya and Patna districts.

Non-Judicial stamps.

393. The increase under this head was shared by all the districts except Bhagalpur and was reported to be due to the execution of large number of mortgages and sale deeds owing to the high prices of food-grains and other necessaries of life and to the change in the rates of fees for licenses under the new Arms Act Rules.

Sale of stamps.

394. The number of stamp vendors was reduced from 1,151 to 1,150. There was, however, an increase of Rs. 27,983 in the discount allowed to the stamp vendors.

The cases in which civil courts levied deficit duty and penalty numbered 1,253 against 1,222 in the preceding year with an increase of Rs. 409 in the amount of duty and penalty. The number of cases decided by Revenue officers increased by 94 and there was a decrease of Rs. 491 in the duty and penalty realized.

Prosecutions under the Stamp Act.

395. The number of prosecutions fell from 31 to 24. There was no prosecution in any of the districts of Patna and Chota Nagpur Divisions. Of the 27 persons brought to trial, 18 were convicted, the fines imposed amounting to Rs. 62 against Rs. 279 in the preceding year.

396. The number of cases in which enquiries were instituted fell from 128 to 103 and the number of enquiries completed during the year fell from 113 to 96, but there was an increase of deficit duty from Rs. 11,955 to Rs. 22,080. Working of section 19-H of the Court Fese Act.

Income-Tax.

397. The Income-Tax Act, VII of 1918, continued to be in force during the year of report. It was, however, amended by Act IV of 1919 which raised the taxable minimum of income from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,000 in order to give relief to persons of limited income and did away with the procedure of summary assessment. Laws.

Another enactment, namely, the Excess Profits Duty Act, 1919, was also passed during the year of report for one year only. It imposed a duty at the rate of 50 per cent on income in excess of the standard profits derived from their business by a Company or a Firm.

398. The total collections (Rs. 25,96,415) in respect of the year's assessment showed an increase of Rs. 2,68,919 or 11·5 over the collections (Rs. 23,27,496) of the preceding year. This amount is, however, liable to change when adjustments under section 19 of the Act are completed. The increase was shared by all the Divisions except Orissa. Collections.

399. The total number of assessees was 8,852 and the estimated demand of the tax was Rs. 19,48,872 against 19,467 and Rs. 19,03,661, respectively, of the previous year. The figures are, however, provisional. The decrease in assessees is due to the raising of the taxable minimum of income. Assessment.

400. The number of assessees under the Super-tax Act and the tax realized from them rose from 34 and Rs. 4,49,070 to 38 and Rs. 8,91,289, respectively, during the year of report. Super-tax.

Forest Revenue.

[*See* Chapter IV of the Report.]

Provincial Finance.

401. The following statement shows the actual receipts and charges on account of Provincial Services for 1919-20, compared with those of 1918-19 :— Receipts and expenditure.

Receipts.

[Figures are in thousands of rupees.]

Major heads.	Actuals, 1918-19.	Actuals, 1919-20.	Actuals, 1919-20, better (+) or worse (—) than 1918-19.	
1	2	3	4	
Principal Heads of Revenue—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I.—Land Revenue	89,61	90,14	+53	...
IV.—Stamps	37,09	42,65	+5,56	...
V.—Excise	92,94	96,79	+3,85	...
VI.—Provincial Rates	95	1,78	+83	...
VIII.—Income-Tax	11,60	12,27	+67	...
IX.—Forests	9,45	8,17	...	—1,28
X.—Registration	6,85	9,05	+2,20	...
XII.—Interest	1,26	1,90	+64	...
Total ...	2,49,75	2,62,75	+14,28	—1,28

Major heads.	Actuals, 1918-19.	Actuals, 1919-20.	Actuals, 1919-20, better (+) or worse (—) than 1918-19.	
1	2	3	4	
Receipts by Civil Departments—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
XVIA.—Law and Justice—Courts ...	3,52	3,52	...	...
XVIB.—Law and Justice—Jails ...	9,77	7,39	...	—2,38
XVII.—Police	7,57	2,80	...	—4,77
XIX.—Education	3,76	4,34	+58	...
XXA.—Medical	80	86	+6	...
XXB.—Sanitation	18	30	+12	...
XXIA.—Agriculture	69	66	...	—3
XXIB.—Scientific and other Miscellaneous Departments.	1	4	+3	...
Total ...	26,30	19,91	+79	—7,18
Miscellaneous—				
XXII.—Receipts in aid of superannuation, etc.	48	48	...	...
XXIII.—Stationery and Printing ...	41	43	+2	...
XXV.—Miscellaneous ...	1,98	3,22	+1,24	...
Total ...	2,87	4,13	+1,26	...
Irrigation—				
XXIX.—Major Works—Direct Receipts—Public Works Department.	13,67	15,08	+1,41	...
XXX.—Minor Works and Navigation—				
(1) Civil	24	26	+2	...
(2) Public Works Department ...	12	12	...	...
Total ...	14,03	15,46	+1,43	...
Public Works—				
XXXI.—Civil Works—				
(1) Civil	1,15	1,44	+29	...
(2) Public Works Department	3,89	4,30	+41	...
Total ...	5,04	5,74	+70	...
Transfers between Imperial and Provincial Revenues.	53,28	57,83	+4,55	...
GRAND TOTAL ...	3,51,27	3,65,82	+23,01	—8,46

EXPENDITURE.

[Figures are in thousands of rupees.]

Major heads.	Actuals, 1918-19.	Actuals, 1919-20.	Actuals, 1919-20, better (+) or worse (—) than 1918-19.	
1	2	3	4	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Direct Demands on the Revenue—				
1.—Refunds and drawbacks ...	75	93	...	—18
2.—Assignments and compensation charges in respect of collections.	45	46	...	—1
Total	1,20	1,39	...	—19
3.—Land Revenue	23,58	25,79	...	—2,21
6.—Stamps	1,12	1,21	...	—9
7.—Excise	4,81	6,92	...	—2,11
10.—Income-Tax	23	26	...	—3
11.—Forests	4,31	5,07	...	—76
12.—Registration	3,98	4,57	...	—59
Interest—				
Total	38,03	48,82	...	—5,79
13.—Interest on ordinary debt ...	1,10	2,01	...	—91
Total	1,10	2,01	...	—91
Salaries and expenses of Civil Department—				
18.—General Administration ...	14,40	15,76	...	—1,36
19A.—Law and Justice—Courts ...	42,36	45,16	...	—2,80
19B.—Law and Justice—Jails ...	22,19	20,46	+1,73	...
20.—Police	53,81	61,57	...	—7,76
21.—Ports and Pilotage	6	7	...	—1
22.—Education	44,45	48,80	...	—4,35
24A.—Medical	9,04	11,10	...	—2,06
24B.—Sanitation	3,70	2,51	+1,19	...
25.—Political	55	87	...	—32
26A.—Agriculture	6,29	6,31	...	—2
26B.—Scientific and other Micellaneous Departments.	71	2,00	...	—1,29
Total ...	1,97,56	2,14,61	+2,92	—19,97

Major heads.	Actuals, 1918-19.	Actuals, 1919-1920.	Actuals 1919-20, better (+) or worse (—) than 1918-1919.	
1	2	3	4	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Miscellaneous Civil Charges—				
29.—Superannuation allowances and pensions	10,39	11,17	...	—78
30.—Stationery and Printing ...	6,00	6,77	...	—77
32.—Miscellaneous	1,87	2,72	...	—85
Total ...	18,26	20,66	...	—2,40
Famine Relief and Insurance—				
33.—Famine Relief	19	1,80	...	—1,61
Total ...	19	1,80	...	—1,61
Irrigation—				
42.—Irrigation—Major Works—				
(1) Working expenses	7,17	7,61	...	—44
(2) Interest on debt	9,02	8,82	+20	...
43.—Minor Works and Navigation—				
(1) Civil	2	3	...	—1
(2) Public Works Department ...	1,44	1,47	...	—3
Total ...	17,65	17,93	+20	—48
Other Public Works—				
45.—Civil Works—				
(1) Civil	16,01	13,62	+2,39	...
(2) Public Works Department ...	49,40	54,69	...	—5,29
Total ...	65,41	68,31	+2,39	—5,29
Total expenditure ...	3,39,40	3,70,53	+5,51	—36,64

Receipts.—There was a net increase of 14,55 compared with 1918-19. The chief increases were under IV-Stamps (5,56), V-Excise (3,85),X-Registration (2,20), XXIX-Irrigation—Direct Receipts (1,41) and transfers between Imperial and Provincial (4,55). The increase under 'Stamps' was due to general resumption of trade after the war in that under Excise was due to better preventive measures in the areas to which the contract system for the supply of country spirit had been extended. The improvement in registration receipts was due to the scarcity, that under Irrigation due to larger demand for irrigation for the *rabi* in the Son Canals, to the issue of leases at enhanced rates and partly to the improvement in canal traffic, owing to the Railway congestion. The increase under "Transfers between Imperial and Provincial" was due to larger contributions from the Imperial revenues for technical education and Puri Water Works. There were decreases under Forests (1,28), Jails (2,38), Police (4,77). The decrease under Forests was due to the contraction of sales of sleepers to the Military Department, that under Jails to the decreased indents of the same department for Jail manufactures and that under Police due to smaller recovery of the cost of special police in Shahabad, Patna and Gaya in the year 1919-20, the greater portion being recovered in the preceding year.

Expenditure.—Compared with the expenditure of 1918-19 there was a net increase of 31,13. The chief increases were under 3-Land Revenue (2,21) 7-Excise (2,11), 18-General Administration (1,36), 19A-Law and Justice-Courts (2,80), 20-Police (7,76), 22-Education (4,35), 24A-Medical (2,06), 26B-Scientific and other Miscellaneous Departments (1,29), 33-Famine Relief (1,61), and 45-Public Works Department (5,29). The increase under Land Revenue was mainly due to special grain compensation allowance and partly to revision of pay of Indian Civil Service Officers, that under Excise due to special grain compensation allowance and to the payments of compensation to the distillers for the loss incurred on the sale of spirit at the contract juice, that under General Administration to increase in the Secretariat staff, special grain compensation allowance and to the move of the Secretariat to Patna, that under Courts to the special grain compensation allowance. The increase under Police was due to special grain compensation allowance for subordinate Police and clerical establishment, formation of a new mounted police force and additional expenditure on clothing and contingencies on account of prevailing high prices, that under Education to special grain compensation allowance, promotion of Headmasters and Deputy Inspectors to the Provincial Educational Service, transfer of Middle English Schools aided by local bodies to the list of Government aided schools, kept account of Inspecting Pandit by Sub-Inspectors and increased stipends to trained teachers, that under Medical to revision of Indian Medical Service officers and to larger grants to hospitals and dispensaries, an increased expenditure in lunatic asylums, that under Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments to the appointment of a Textile Expert and the prolonged appointment of the Director of Civil Supplies and the Controller of Cotton Cloth, that under Famine Relief due to scarcity and that under Public Works Department to revision of pay of superior Engineering officers, micellaneous improvements and larger repairs to buildings.

The most noticeable decrease was under Jails (1,73), Sanitation (1,19) and 45-Civil Works—Civil—(2,39).

The decrease under Jails was due to smaller purchase of raw materials, that under Sanitation to adjustments in the accounts under other heads of money allotted from the lump sanitation grants, while that under Civil Works due to the less expenditure on the through route between Bankipur and Orissa and on contribution towards the conservancy and sanitary improvements of Patna.

Local Finance.

402. The following table shows the income and expenditure and the opening and closing balances of the local funds for the year 1919-20 :—

[Figures are in thousands of rupees.]

Serial No.	Name of fund.	Opening balance on 1st April 1919.	Receipts during the year.	Total.	Expenditure during the year.	Closing balance.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	District Funds ...	26,82	1,17,25	1,44,07	1,14,00	30,07
2	Union Funds ...	15	38	53	39	14
3	District Road Funds	3,38	9,71	13,09	8,64	4,45
4	District Chaukidar Reward Fund.	33	39	72	36	36
5	Chota Nagpur Chaukidari Fund.	1,88	5,27	7,15	5,59	1,56
6	Road Patrol Fund ...	23	39	62	41	21
7	Pilgrim Lodging House Funds.	49	78	1,27	79	48
8	Medical and Charitable Funds.	3	26	29	27	2
9	Education Funds ...	3	4	7	2	5
10	Town and Bazar Fund.	2	7	9	8	1
11	Cantonment Fund ...	25	50	75	60	15
12	Khondmal Road Fund	1	6	7	6	1
13	Orissa Port Fund ...	...	16	16	15	1
14	Jharia Water Board	9,04	5,64	14,68	8,97	5,71
15	Jharia Mines Board of Health.	42	85	1,27	97	30
16	Municipal Funds ...	10,59	23,32	33,91	23,68	10,23
17	Medical Registration Fund.	4	3	7	3	4
18	Medical Examination Fund.	7	8	15	10	5
	GRAND TOTAL ...	53,78	1,65,18	2,18,96	1,65,11	53,85

Local Cess.

[Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Province of Bihar and Orissa for the year 1919-20.]

Rate at which levied.

403. Local cess was levied at the maximum rate of one anna in the rupee on the annual value of lands and the annual net profits on mines or other immovable property throughout the province, except in the districts of Angul, Sambalpur and the Damin-i-koh Government Estate in the Santal Parganas, where the Cess Act is not in force.

Demands and Collections.

404. The gross rental shows a total increase of Rs. 30,81,948. The current cess demand was 62,37,252 against 60,37,092 in the previous year. The increase of 2,00,160 was mainly due to the assessment for the first time of railway collieries in Hazaribagh and increased receipts from coal mines in the district of Manbhum. Actual collections amounted to Rs. 63,05,969 against Rs. 59,86,988 last year. The abnormal increase of remissions from Rs. 5,284 to Rs. 57,062 was mainly due to the revised assessment of Government estates and mines.

Working of the Certificate procedure.

405. The total number of certificates filed for the realization of arrears of cess fell slightly from 53,590 to 53,023. The total number of cases for disposal was 67,732 against 66,759. In 545 cases certificates were cancelled and recourse to actual sale was made in 1,070 cases only. In 409 of these cases the sales were subsequenly set aside. In 232 cases the demands were realized by issuing warrants of arrest.

Valuations and revaluations.

406. General revaluation operations were in progress in the districts of Gaya, Darbhanga and Champaran. In Shahabad, a revaluation of mines was made, which resulted in a net increase of Rs. 2,338 in the annual demand. The revaluation operations undertaken in Saran by the Settlement Department were still in progress.

Municipal Revenue.

[*See* Chapter III of the Report.]

CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

Vital Statistics.

[Report of the Sanitary Commissioner, Bihar and Orissa, for the year 1919—Statistics of British India, Part V—Areas, Population and Public Health.]

Climatic conditions.

407. The year 1919 was marked by normal rainfall in almost every part of the province except in Orissa where it was in defect in September and in excess in November, damage being caused by floods to the crops in some parts of Puri, Balasore and Cuttack. Though the harvests were distinctly favourable, there was little fall in the price of food grains, the price of common rice in most districts averaging 5½ seers to the rupee. The continuance of high prices had a lowering effect on the vitality and general health of the people.

Vital Statistics.

408. The provincial birth-rate was only 30·4 against 37·5 in 1918 and an average of 39·5 during the past five years. This low rate is attributed partly to the prevalence of high prices during the last two years and the resultant low vitality of the people, partly to the epidemic of influenza and partly to the emigration of adult males and females, particularly from the Chota Nagpur Division. The death rate fell to 40·0 against 56·7 in 1919 and an average of 37 during the last five years.

Registration of Vital Occurrences.

409. Registration of vital occurrences continued to be unsatisfactory, the municipal authorities being still unwilling to incur expenditure on that object. The arrangement in the Patna City Municipality by which a special medical officer was employed to verify births and deaths and to investigate the probable causes of death was discontinued and the post abolished. The larger municipalities have now been asked to put up vital statistics at their monthly meetings and statements of seizures and deaths from the more common infectious diseases occurring in districts and towns are circulated to local bodies and published in the *Bihar and Orissa Gazette* and in some of the newspapers. The experiment of testing vital occurrences in the special area in the sadr thana of the district of Muzaffarpur, which was started in 1915, was continued during the year. There were 242 registering circles in rural areas.

Cholera.

410. The death-rate from cholera was 3 against 5·9 in 1918 and an average rate of 3 for the last five years. It broke out in epidemic form in the Orissa Division which returned 42,217 deaths out of the total of 104,727 in the province or about 40·3 per cent. Experiments in inoculation against cholera were made in the Hazaribagh district and among the coolies recruited by the Tea Districts Labour Association. The vaccination staff was also trained in the method of disinfecting wells.

Small-pox.

411. The rate of mortality during 1919 was ·2 against ·1 in the year 1918 and ·2 the average of the previous five years.

Fevers.

412. The death-rate from fevers was 28·1 against 40·0 of the previous year and 24·4 the average of the previous five years. The influenza epidemic continued during the year 1919 throughout the province but in a milder form. The rate of mortality was estimated to be 8 per 1,000 of population. The special anti-malarial operations in the district of Purnea were continued and the people are now reported to be anxious to take quinine.

413. The rate of mortality was ·4 as compared with 1·5 in 1918 and 1·2 the average of the last five years. The Patna Division again recorded the highest death-rate (·9). Plague.

414. The death-rate from this cause was 1·3 against 1·0 in 1918 and ·9 the average rate of the last five years. Dysentery and Diarrhœa.

415. The death-rate from respiratory disease was ·2 *per mille* which was the same as the average rate of death-rate previous five years. Respiratory Disease.

INLAND EMIGRATION.

416. The total number of emigrants recruited from Province including the Feudatory States was 68,466 against 178,918 in 1918-19 and 12,462 in 1917-18. The number of recruits was again abnormally high owing to the scarcity caused by the failure of the monsoon of 1918. Ninety-nine per cent. of the coolies were recruited from Chota Nagpur, Orissa and the Santal Parganas, the most important recruiting districts being Ranchi, Cuttack, Manbhum, Sambalpur and Singhbhum. An important change introduced during the year was the extension of the Act to the Sadr subdivision of the district of Angul where recruitment was previously unrestricted by law. Recruitment is now prohibited in the Sadr subdivision except through the medium of garden Sardars working under Local Agents, and altogether in the Khondmals. The reports showed that the "places of accommodation" were generally maintained in good sanitary condition and that there was no serious outbreak of epidemic disease. In all such places maintained by the Tea Districts Labour Association the emigrants are now being inoculated with cholera vaccine. Number of Emigrants.

417. The number of criminal cases in which emigrants were complainants and the number of persons convicted rose from 28 and 23 in the previous year to 63 and 60 respectively. The increase is attributed to the greater care taken by the Local Agents to prevent abuses and bring the delinquents to justice. Emigration was again an important factor during the year in dealing with the effects of scarcity and of the prevailing high prices. Criminal cases.

MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS.

[Triennial Report on the working of the Hospitals and Dispensaries in Bihar and Orissa for the years 1917, 1918 and 1919 and the Resolution recorded by Government thereon—Statistics of British India, Part V—Area, Population and Public Health].

418. There were 428 hospitals and dispensaries of all classes in the Province in 1919 against 425 in the previous year. Six local fund and one private non-aided dispensaries were opened and three private non-aided dispensaries which were already in existence were brought under the recognition of the Medical department. Three dispensaries were closed and four others were removed from the list. Number of Dispensaries.

419. The number of in-patients treated in all classes of dispensaries rose from 57,148 in 1918 to 65,319 in 1919, but that of out-patients fell from 3,843,389 to 3,663,677. The decrease in the out-door attendance is attributed to an improvement in the public health in most districts in 1919 as well as to the further discouragement of the system of treatment by proxy. Number of patients treated.

420. Malarial fever was, as usual, responsible for the largest number of cases treated, but the number of such cases fell from 763,593 to 732,428. The sales of quinine were satisfactory showing the growth of public appreciation of the drug. Interesting experiments in the use as an infusion of the leaf of the "Vitex Peduncularis" were made by Lieutenant-Colonel Vaughan, I.M.S., with results which have shown that the method is worth a thorough and scientific examination; the more so as the plant is indigenous to Chota Nagpur and capable of easy cultivation. Diseases treated.

The influenza epidemic, which appeared and caused such appalling mortality in 1918, continued but in a milder form. It is estimated that the death roll in the Province was at least 600,000 during the two years. The magnitude of the epidemic was such that the limited medical staff could

make little impression in fighting it. The epidemic was world-wide, the mortality being equally high even in countries where sanitary conditions were more favourable than in India. The value of prophylactic treatment of the disease by means of vaccine inoculation was proved.

Cholera exacted a diminished toll in 1919, most of the cases occurring in the Tirhut Division. The immunity from cholera of towns with a piped water-supply was marked. The mortality from plague was exceptionally low in 1919.

Finance.

421. The total income of medical institutions in the province amounted to Rs. 13,93,324 and the expenditure to Rs. 13,67,811. Of the total receipts 30·57 per cent. was obtained from Government, 9·25 per cent. from Municipalities, 42·80 per cent. from District Boards, 3·35 per cent. from other local funds, 8·25 per cent. from subscriptions, 2·58 per cent. from interest on investments, and 3·17 per cent. from other sources.

Medical Schools.

422. The number of students on the rolls of the Medical Schools at Patna and Cuttack during the year 1919-20 was 246 and 198 respectively as compared with 169 and 176 respectively in 1918-19.

Leper Asylums

423. The total number of patients treated for leprosy at hospitals and dispensaries was 2,315 against 2,555 in 1918. The total expenditure incurred for maintaining the nine existing leper asylums amounted to Rs. 1,29,035 of which Government contributed Rs. 57,760 and local bodies Rs. 13,940 and the balance was received from the Mission to Lepers in India and the East and from private subscriptions and donations. A new asylum at Cuttack was opened in November 1919. Accommodation is now available in the province for 961 male and 610 female lepers.

LUNATIC ASYLUMS.

[Annual returns of the European Lunatic Asylum at Ranchi and the Patna Lunatic Asylum at Bankipore in Bihar and Orissa for the year 1919.]

European Lunatic Asylum, Ranchi.

Population, admission and discharge of lunatics.

424. The accommodation at the Ranchi European Lunatic Asylum remained the same as in the previous year, *viz.*, 92 males and 88 females, or a total of 180 patients. The number of patients admitted during the year was 204 of whom 114 were males and 90 females including 4 cases of re-admissions. The total number of discharges was 22 of whom 16 were cured, 4 taken charge of by friends and relatives in improved condition and 2 were discharged otherwise. The daily average strength was 169 as compared with 131 in the previous year. The total number of admissions to the Asylum hospital during the year was 116, and the number of deaths was 16. The average daily sick was 6·05 against 4·14 in 1918. The total receipts from paying patients at the Asylum was Rs. 25,318 and the total charges amounted to Rs. 1,10,479 excluding the cost of the work done by the Public Works Department which amounted to Rs. 20,472. The actual cost to Government for each lunatic was Rs. 653.

Indian Lunatic Asylum, Patna.

There were 241 males and 45 females in the Patna Lunatic Asylum at the commencement of the year, which was less than the number which the Asylum can accommodate. Seventy-one males and 9 females were admitted during the year and 12 males and 1 female were re-admitted. Those discharged numbered 73 males and 5 females of whom 41 males and 3 females were cured. The daily average strength was 268·81. The percentage of those cured to the daily average strength was 16·57 and the death-rate 171·12 *per mille* as compared with 111·04 in the previous year. The total mortality was 46.

The cost of upkeep of the Asylum was Rs. 55,104, excluding the cost of the works done by the Public Works Department which amounted to Rs. 1,251. The average cost per head to Government was Rs. 206. The new Indian Asylum at Kanke is under construction.

SANITATION.

[Report of the Sanitary Commissioner, Bihar and Orissa, for the year 1919.]

Sanitary improvements.

425. The total expenditure on sanitation in Municipal towns and District Boards during 1918-19 was Rs. 17,02,959 and Rs. 3,96,101 respectively, against Rs. 15,60,578 and Rs. 3,53,129 in 1917-18. The adulteration of food was made punishable during the year by the passing of the Bihar and Orissa Food Adulteration Act, which has been extended to the larger Municipalities and to areas in which large annual fairs are held. The necessity for the Act was shown as a result of analyses of common articles of food made at the Sanitary Laboratory at Gulzarbagh. The Sanitary Engineer again concentrated his attention chiefly on larger schemes such as the drainage and water-supply schemes for Patna, Patna City, Puri and Ranchi Lunatic Asylum.

Publicity Bureau.

426. The work of the Publicity Bureau was developed during the year. Lectures were delivered in the larger towns by medical officers and by the Sanitary Commissioner and his subordinates and also by Lady Doctors on child-welfare and maternity work. Pamphlets and leaflets both in English and the vernacular were widely distributed. A sanitary section was opened at the Provincial Agricultural Exhibition at Patna and was visited by fifteen thousand people. The connection of making compulsory the teaching of hygiene in schools is being examined.

Health Officers.

427. Only five Health Officers were employed during the year. The difficulty of getting suitable men for the posts of Health Officers continued, and, a scheme is under consideration to create a Provincial Health Service in which the appointments will be permanent and pensionable. A bill was also introduced and passed in the Legislative Council to require municipalities having a population of ten thousand and over to employ a Sanitary Officer.

Sanitary School.

428. Sixteen men passed out as Sanitary Inspectors from the school out of twenty-three who appeared for the examination during the year. Since 1914 ninety-three Inspectors have been trained, of whom forty-six have been employed by Municipalities. As the remainder were still un-employed the school was closed from 1st October 1919.

Sanitary Board.

429. The Sanitary Board was reconstituted during the year and now includes non-official representatives of each division of the province. The Board is no longer merely an advisory body, but exercises administrative power and controls the distribution of sanitation grants to local bodies subject to confirmation by Government.

VACCINATION.

[Report of the Sanitary Commissioner, Bihar and Orissa, for the year 1919, and Triennial Report on Vaccination, Bihar and Orissa, for the years 1917-18, 1918-19 and 1919-20.]

Small-pox and Vaccination.

430. The death-rate from small-pox during the year 1919-20 was: 53 against 17 in the previous year. The death-rate was highest in the Orissa Division. At the same time the average number of vaccinations performed during the triennium including the year under report decreased by 185,345 in comparison with the previous three years. The total number of operations performed during the year was 1,054,905. During the year 1919-20 the Vaccination Acts were extended to villages Satvarwa, Chainpur and Pakra in Palamau district.

The working cost of the Vaccine Depôt at Namkum for the year was Rs. 25,048 against Rs. 29,685 of the last year and the total revenue from it rose from Rs. 15,962 in the previous year to Rs. 26,643 in 1919-20. The Department has thus become self-supporting.

The subordinate inspecting staff was given some training in elementary hygiene and in the management and control of epidemic diseases with a view to utilizing their services during the non-vaccination season in dealing with epidemics of cholera and other diseases.

THE BIHAR AND ORISSA PLACES OF PILGRIMAGE ACT.

[Report on the working of the Bihar and Orissa Places of Pilgrimage Act, during the year 1919-20.]

Extent of application.

431. Towards the close of the year " the Bihar and Orissa Places of Pilgrimage Act, 1920 " was passed into law by which the Puri Lodging House Act was repealed. The new Act allows the imposition of a terminal tax, which will, it is hoped, be sufficient to meet the recurring charges of a much needed water supply scheme at Puri.

During the year under report the number of licensed houses in Gaya increased from 325 to 389 and the number of pilgrims for whom accommodation was provided rose from 15,880 to 28,626. In Deoghar the number of licensed houses and amount of accommodation increased from 76 and 3,868 to 80 and 4,164 respectively. In the Orissa Division the figure rose to 456 and 18,708 against 315 and 13,284 in the previous year. The increase was chiefly in Puri.

Offences under the Act.

432. There were 234 prosecutions and the total amount of fines realized was Rs. 3,277-8-0.

Income and Expenditure.

433. The total income of the Lodging House Funds was Rs. 77,897 against Rs. 65,949 in the preceding year. There was a large increase in Gaya from Rs. 20,752 to Rs. 31,265. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 78,692 against Rs. 63,342.

Health and Sanitation.

434. The usual extensive precautions were taken to prevent the spread of contagious diseases, and at Puri the wells inside the temple and the sacred tanks were disinfected for the first time. There was however a severe outbreak of cholera at Puri and some cases also at Gaya.

CHAPTER VII.-INSTRUCTION.

General System of Public Instruction.

See—

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR 1911-12, PART II, PAGES 220—25.

Education.

[Report on the progress of Education in Bihar and Orissa for 1919-20 —Statistics of British India, Part VII.—Education.]

Staff.

435. Four permanent posts were added to the men's branch of the Indian Educational Service during the year, viz., those of the principals of the Bihar National College and the Greer Bhumihar Brahman College; of the Head Master of the Bhagalpur Zilla School, which has not yet been filled; and of Head Master of the Ravenshaw Collegiate School, which is to remain in abeyance for the present. Five temporary posts were created in connexion with post-graduate teaching at Patna College, namely Professorships of Economics, English, History, Physics and Chemistry for which three were filled during the year. One post was added to the women's branch of the Indian Educational Service namely that of the Lady Principal of the Ravenshaw Girls' High School, but this post remains in abeyance for the present.

The cadre of the Provincial Educational Service rose during the year from 97 to 106. The nine new posts are all professorships.

At the close of the year the cadre of the Subordinate Educational Service consisted of 634 posts; of these 44 are temporarily replaced by ungraded posts.

General Statistics.

436. The total expenditure rose from Rs. 89,01,459 to Rs. 99,56,128 and the direct expenditure from Rs. 63,98,695 to Rs. 71,32,356. The direct expenditure from provincial revenues rose by Rs. 3,12,802 and that from local funds by Rs. 1,71,191. There was an increase in fees of Rs. 79,452 and from subscriptions and other sources of Rs. 1,70,236. The number of public institutions for males increased by 60 from 24,109 to 24,169 and the number of pupils by 19,508 from 7,25,308 to 7,44,816. Girls' schools show an increase of 73 schools and 2,427 pupils, while private institutions show a decrease of 127 schools and 2,573 pupils. The net result is again of 6 schools and 19,362 pupils.

There was a decline from 1,525 to 1,504 in the number of public institutions in urban areas, and from 89,219 to 86,217 in their pupils. On the other hand there was an increase of 154 to 25,381 in the number of these institutions in rural areas and of 24,937, viz., from 699,877 to 724,814, in their pupils.

The number of male pupils was 727,401 or 28·8 per cent. of the male population of the school going age and of the female pupils 114,962 or 4·3 per cent of the female population of the school-going age.

The expenditure on European Schools was Rs. 2,55,041 of which provincial revenues contributed Rs. 89,549.

University Education.

The University.

437. The first elections to the Senate and Syndicate under sections 7(3) and 8(3) of the Act were held during the year and the first courses of lectures delivered under the auspices of the University.

Most of the Colleges were inspected in the course of the year. Examinations above the Matriculation were held on the courses prescribed by the University, but alternative papers were set for candidates who had appeared at previous examinations and failed. There was no great change in the number of candidates appearing at the University examinations except in the case of the Matriculation Examination, for which there were 4,194 candidates against 3,274 last year. The increase was mainly due to the fact that the examination was being held on the Calcutta University course for the last time.

The Committee appointed by Government to enquire into the accommodation necessary in the proposed University buildings submitted its report. The Senate appointed two further Committees to consider the question of Higher Commercial Education and the report of the Sadler Commission on Calcutta University.

Income from fees during the year amounted to Rs. 1,37,124 and the Government contribution to Rs. 51,914. Income from other sources was Rs. 29,291. Included in this last item are donations of Rs. 25,000 from the Banaili Raj for a Readership in Economics and an Economic Library and of Rs. 1,575 from Mr. Sachidananda Sinha for the endowment of a gold medal for proficiency in History at the B. A. Examination.

Arts Colleges.

438. There was a fall in the number of students during the year, viz., from 2,914 to 2,591. The main reason for the fall appears to have been the high cost of living. It is noteworthy that the greater proportion of the decrease occurred in private colleges, where the students are generally less well-to-do than those in Government institutions. It is also reported that there has been a considerable migration of students to schools and colleges in Bengal, owing to an impression which is current that the standard of the Patna University is higher than that of the Calcutta University.

The number of Government and aided institutions each increased by one, through the establishment of the New College and the granting of aid to the Diamond Jubilee College, Monghyr. Direct expenditure increased from Rs. 4,20,699 to Rs. 4,92,525, mainly owing to the appointment of the post-graduate teaching staff at Patna College. There was considerable building activity during the year, especially at Cuttack, Muzaffarpur and Bhagalpur. The discipline generally has been good.

The number of students at Patna College fell from 468 to 276 owing to the transfer from the college of the I. A. Classes. Post-graduate classes in English, Mathematics and Sanskrit were opened during the year and the existing classes in History and Economics were regularized. Similar classes in Persian were sanctioned but did not attract students.

There was a fall in the number of students at Ravenshaw College from 471 to 438. The new buildings, the foundation of which was laid in November 1919, made rapid progress. The number of students at the Greer Bhumihar Brahman College remained at 297. Good progress was made with the new college buildings and part of the new hostel was completed and occupied.

The fall in the number of students at the Bihar National College was more severe than at any other, *viz.*, from 812 to 639, and the college is now being conducted at a loss. A new building was acquired for use as a hostel, the two existing hostels being full.

At the Tej Narayan Jubilee College the numbers fell from 620 to 536. The Diamond Jubilee College also showed a fall in numbers, from 73 to 55, but the condition of this college distinctly improved during the year, the old buildings having been vacated and a new set lent by Government having been occupied in July 1919.

The New College came into existence on August 9th, 1919, by the abolition of Classes V to VIII from the Patna Collegiate School and the

addition of the I. A. Classes transferred from Patna College. The College has been formed somewhat on the lines of an English Public School and is the first institution of its kind in the province.

SECONDARY EDUCATION.

The number of secondary schools for Indian boys rose from 495 to 530 and the number of pupils from 70,412 to 70,675; the cost rose from Rs. 17,76,320 to Rs. 19,98,729 and the cost of educating each pupil from Rs. 26-0-11 to Rs. 29-5-10. The increase in the number of pupils is not in proportion to the increase of institutions and of the cost, and the matter is under investigation. The increase in the cost is explained by the increased pay of teachers in Government schools and the increased number of establishments.

The number of high schools rose from 114 to 120, that of Middle English Schools from 242 to 253 and that of Middle Vernacular Schools from 139 to 157. The number of students in High Schools fell from 35,908 to 33,044 but in Middle English and Middle Vernacular Schools there was a rise from 23,144 to 24,100 and from 11,360 to 13,531 respectively. The School-Leaving Certificate scheme has made little progress as it has not been found possible so far to provide for the teaching of the special subjects required.

Nine schools were permitted to open Class XII and to present candidates at the Matriculation Examination of 1921, namely the Whitty High School at Jahanabad, the Patna High School, the Pataliputra High School at Bankipore, the Tirhut Vidyalay at Mehsi, the Marwari High Schools at Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga, the Jamahir Kumari High School at Rajmahal, the Gogri High School and the George High School at Bargarh.

PRIMARY EDUCATION.

The total number of primary schools of all classes for boys and girls rose from 25,652 to 25,793 and that of their pupils from 695,256 to 718,446. Expenditure rose from Rs. 30,50,146 to Rs. 34,05,068, the cost of each primary school and of each pupil being now Rs. 132-0-2 and Rs. 5-1-9 respectively.

The number of primary schools for Indian boys rose from 23,046 to 23,117 and that of their pupils from 634,946 to 655,554. This increase of 20,608 boys more than makes up for the losses of 1918-19 and has been achieved in spite of the continuance of high prices and epidemics during the year. Both Upper Primary and Lower Primary Schools shared in the rise. Expenditure again rose from Rs. 27,29,084 to Rs. 30,53,649 and that from public funds from Rs. 14,04,532 to Rs. 15,74,213; the average cost of each school being Rs. 132-1-6 and of each pupil Rs. 5-0-5. The fee-income also rose from Rs. 8,97,844 to Rs. 9,53,345. Several schemes were prepared for compulsory primary education in Municipalities.

439. The number of pupils in the five first grade training schools showed a considerable increase, viz., from 372 to 410. The results in the Second Departmental Examination were very satisfactory, the Muzaffarpur school succeeding in passing all its candidates. Training of teachers.

The number of Government training schools for Gurus and Muhammadan teachers remained at 119, but the number of pupils rose from 2,203 to 2,300. One aided school attached to the former G. E. L. Mission at Govindpur in the Ranchi District ceased to exist. The number of trained teachers employed in educational institutions is now 9,775, but the facilities for training are still inadequate and there is a general complaint that the stipends are insufficient.

440. At Patna Law College the number of students rose from 294 to 309 of whom 271 were in the B. L. classes and 38 in the Pleadership classes. Ninety students out of 141 passed the Preliminary, 72 out of 116 the Intermediate, and 85 out of 129 the Final B. L. examination. Law Colleges.

The number of students in the pleadership classes at Bhagalpur fell from 37 to 28 and at Cuttack rose from 14 to 18.

Medical, Engineering, Surveying and other Schools.

441. Owing to the closing of the "B" classes at the Bhagalpur Zila School and of the weaving schools at Sambalpur and Cuttack the number of technical and professional institutions fell from 41 to 38. The number of pupils rose from 1,692 to 1,759 and the expenditure from Rs. 2,57,310 to Rs. 2,67,452.

With the exception of the Medical Schools and of the Bihar School of Engineering all these were transferred to the control of the Director of Industries at the end of the year.

At the Medical Schools at Cuttack and Bankipore the number of students rose from 316 to 400; and the expenditure from Rs. 82,441 to Rs. 86,703.

The number of students at the Bihar School of Engineering rose from 144 to 182, and the direct expenditure from Rs. 88,180 to Rs. 97,347. The Overseers and Sub-overseers classes have now been separated. The former are now called Upper Subordinate Classes and have a three years' course of instruction, and the latter Lower Subordinate classes with a course covering two years.

The school continued in a high state of efficiency. At the annual examination conducted by the Joint Technical Examination Board 9 students qualified as overseers and 27 as sub-overseers out of 11 and 41 candidates, respectively. At the annual competitive examination held at Purulia two students of the school were first and second, amongst the candidates with Upper Subordinate qualifications. In conformity with the recommendations of the Public Works Department Reorganization Committee the short term Government scholarships of Rs. 7 have been replaced by a smaller number of Rs. 15 scholarships tenable throughout the courses. Two camps for Survey Field work were held during the year, one at Dehri-on-Sone and the other in the Palamau district. At the latter camp a reservoir site survey in the valley of the Pande river was undertaken on behalf of the Public Works Department. Builders' classes were opened during the year.

The number of students in the Mining Classes was 425 against 391 in the previous year. The expenditure from provincial revenues on these classes rose from Rs. 5,160 to Rs. 5,440.

The Ranchi Industrial School had 117 pupils against 110 in the previous year. The expenditure rose from Rs. 25,474 to Rs. 31,552. Five candidates out of 7 were successful at the sub-overseer examination.

There were 24 pupils in the survey school at Angul against 33 in the previous year, while the expenditure was Rs. 420 against Rs. 413. The building for the proposed industrial school at Phulbani in the Khondmals is under consideration.

The number of artisan schools decreased from 21 to 20, distributed as follows : in Tirhut three, in Orissa two, in Bhagalpur one, and in Chota Nagpur fourteen. The number of commercial schools rose from five to six and that of their pupils from 129 to 161 while their expenditure rose from Rs. 6,187 to Rs. 7,333. The Patna Division has three schools, Tirhut two and Bhagalpur one.

Telegraph training classes have not yet been opened in any schools in the province.

Education of Indian girls and women.

442. The number of public institutions for Indian girls rose during the year from 2,634 to 2,704 and that of the girls attending them from 62,160 to 64,314 while 56 private institutions with 1,052 girls were reported in place of 72 with 1,612 girls. The direct expenditure rose from Rs. 4,68,433 to Rs. 5,06,345. The number of girls in boys schols, which of late years has been decreasing, rose from 47,617 to 49,596. The net result is a satisfactory increase of 4,627 in the total number of girls at school.

The I. A. classes attached to the Ravenshaw Girls' High School were admitted to the University shortly after the close of the year and the question

of placing them on a permanent footing is now under consideration. Unfortunately the number of students fell from 11 to 7. Two girls passed the I. A. Examination during the year.

The number of High Schools remained at 4, but the number of their pupils fell from 719 to 672. The new hostel of the Ravenshaw Girls' High School was opened during the year, and at the end of the year 25 girls and 6 teachers were in residence. It was decided during the year to remove the Bankipore Girls' High School to the building formerly occupied as a Circuit-house and to erect the Lady Principal's quarters and a temporary hostel in the compound. The removal has since taken place. There were 112 girls in the school and three girls appeared at and passed the Matriculation Examination.

The number of Middle English Schools rose from four to five owing to the recognition of the Bengali Girls' School at Ranchi, and there were 361 pupils compared with 313 in 1918-19. The number of pupils attending the practising school attached to the Badshah Nawab Razvi Training College fell from 130 to 118.

The number of Middle Vernacular Schools remained at 16 as in 1918-19, but with 17 more pupils.

Primary schools for girls, including *maktabs* and Sanskrit *pathsalas*, numbered 2,664 with 61,313 girls as compared with 2,594 with 58,968 girls in the previous year.

The number of lace schools is 7, at Patna (Badshah Nawab Razvi Training College), Pakaur, Pathra, Meharo, Purulia, Khunti and Sighani. The S. P. G. Mission lace school at Ranchi is reported like the R. C. Mission school last year to have developed into a business organization.

The number of training classes rose from 7 to 8 owing to the opening by the Department of a class for Hindu women at Cuttack.

An important event during the year was the acquisition, with considerable financial assistance from the Bettiah Raj, of Bettiah House now occupied by the Badshah Nawab Razvi Training College and the adjoining lands to the east, south and west. Improvements and additions to the buildings are under consideration.

The number of middle, upper primary and lower primary scholarships won by girls was 3, 7 and 201 against 4, 10 and 169 in the previous year.

443. There were 19 recognized European schools, as last year, the number of pupils increasing from 1,146 to 1,159, of whom 572 were boys and 587 girls. Indians in European schools numbered 41 as compared with 27 last year, and there were 14 Europeans in Indian schools against 19 in the preceding year. The erection of buildings for the East Indian Railway schools at Dhanbad and Gomoh is in progress. **European Schools.**

444. In contrast to last year there was a considerable rise, from 86,866 to 92,930, in the number of Muhammadan pupils attending primary schools (including *maktabs*). The number fell however in all other classes of institutions, viz., from 578 to 476 in Arts Colleges, from 89 to 82 in professional colleges, from 8,781 to 8,237 in secondary schools, from 1,854 to 1,825 in special schools and from 10,015 to 9,820 in private institutions. The net increase in the number of Muhammadan pupils was therefore 5,187. The percentage at school of the Muhammadan population of school-going age rose from 19·7 to 20·6. **Muhammadan Education.**

The number of recognized *madrassas* rose from 14 to 16 but that of their pupils fell from 1,095 to 929. There was again a considerable decrease in the total expenditure on them, viz., from Rs. 24,119 to Rs. 19,906; the expenditure from public funds also fell, from Rs. 6,938 to Rs. 4,995. The number of recognized *maktabs* rose from 2,390 to 2,476 and that of pupils attending them from 59,879 to 63,474, the increase being apparently due to natural expansion. The expenditure on these schools rose from Rs. 2,52,286 to

Rs. 2,85,696. A further increase, from 50 to 57, in the number of girls' *maktabs* is reported from Orissa, a promising sign for the future of Muhammadan girls' education in that division.

Sanskrit Education.

445. There was a further decrease in the number of recognized Sanskrit *tols* from 360 to 318, and of their pupils from 10,008 to 8,742. The expenditure from provincial revenues rose from Rs. 32,889 to Rs. 39,589, mainly owing to the expenditure incurred on the two Sanskrit Colleges.

Reformatory School,

446. The number of boys in the Hazaribagh Reformatory School rose during the year from 383 to 420 of whom 134 came from Bihar and Orissa, 271 from Bengal and 15 from Assam. The gross expenditure rose from Rs. 1,10,711 to Rs. 1,17,043 and the net expenditure by Government from Rs. 1,02,841 to Rs. 1,09,917. There were considerable reductions under the heads Salaries, Allowances and Workshop Charges, but these were more than counterbalanced by increases in grain compensation allowance and higher prices in general, hostel charges alone accounting for an increase of over Rs. 7,000.

Hostels.

447. Although there was a rise in the number of hostels from 521 to 527, and in the expenditure from Rs. 2,14,564 to Rs. 2,25,972, the number of boarders fell slightly, from 15,850 to 15,533. This decrease was due almost entirely to the loss experienced in the Chota Nagpur Division (of 7 hostels and 462 boarders), a loss ascribed to economic scarcity. All other Divisions except Orissa, where there was a slight fall, show an increase, the greatest being 209 boarders in the Bhagalpur Division.

Physical Training.

448. Interest in games continues to grow; English games, especially football, have now been introduced into some Middle Schools as well as in practically all High Schools. There is little change to record in the teaching of drill and gymnastics as the post of Director of Physical Training has not yet been filled up.

LITERATURE AND THE PRESS.

Publications registered.

449. The total number of Hindi books published during the year 1919-20 was 87 against 137 during the previous year. The bulk of these consisted of works on religion and miscellaneous subjects. Twenty-two books were published in Urdu against 21 during the previous year. The total number of Oriya books published during the year was 468 against 489 during 1918-19. Most of these were school books or works on mythology, religion, poetry and miscellaneous subjects. None of these call for any special notice.

Newspapers.

450. The newspapers and periodicals in circulation at the close of the year were 66 as compared with 59 in 1918 and 65 in 1917. Five minor publications ceased to issue, and twelve were started or reappeared after having stopped for a time. None of the new papers are of any importance or influence, except perhaps the *Samaj*, an Oriya paper.

Eighteen newspapers and periodicals were published in English, eighteen in Hindi, sixteen in Oriya, seven in Urdu and three in Bengali; while four contained articles both in English and Oriya. The *Express* was, as before, the only daily paper, and the *Searchlight*, published bi-weekly, was the next in frequency. Of the remainder 22 were published weekly, 4 fortnightly, 31 monthly and 6 quarterly.

Most of the important papers continue to be published in Patna, whence issue the *Searchlight*, the *Express*, the *Bihar Herald*, the *Pataliputra* and eight others. In Cuttack appear the *Oriya* and the *Utkal Dipika* and a large number of missionary papers. The *Bihar Standard* and the *Tirhut Samachar* are printed in Muzaffarpur, the *Narad* in Chapra, and the *Bihar Advocate* in Gaya.

A perusal of the newspapers of 1919 shows that a more acrid tone has been introduced into political journalism. The disturbances in the Punjab and elsewhere and the measures taken to repress them, the widespread economic distress and the hardships suffered by the masses afforded ready material

for hostile criticism. The Rowlatt Act was also made the theme of much indignant writing in the local press. Towards the end of the year, as the possibilities of the election system under the new scheme of Government were realized, a tendency on the part of newspapers to adopt an attitude of political partisanship similar to that of the newspapers in England became noticeable, the rival claimants for the votes of the masses being, on the one hand, the lawyers and the non-land-owning intelligentia generally and, on the other, the landholders. The *Searchlight* continues to be the most important and influential newspaper in the Province, and the most ably edited. It is the organ of the extreme Home Rule party and its tone shows an uncompromising hostility to the established Government in all respects. Its political articles are always vehement and at times violent and objectionable.

CHAPTER VIII—ARCHÆOLOGY.

Archæology.

Conservation.

451. The sum of Rs. 6,841 was spent on conservation work in Bihar and Orissa during 1919-20. Special repairs to the Arrah House in the Shahabad District were completed during the year at a cost of Rs. 2,216. The following buildings were repaired during the year,—the tomb of Ibrahim Khan and Makhdum Shah at Maner in Patna District, Rohtas Fortress in Shahabad District, the Fort and Bastion at Buxar in Shahabad District, the black Pagoda at Konarak, the caves at Khandgiri and Udaigiri and the temples at Bhubaneshwar in Puri District.

Nalanda.

452. The exterior of the main monastic building on site No. 1 at Nalanda in Patna District has been completely conserved. Several walls of the cells belonging to the B monastery which were in a dangerous condition have been repaired. Most of the minor stupas lying to the west of the main colossal stupa have also been repaired. The temporary roofs on the two excavated temples at the north-east and north-west corners have been renewed and a wooden shed has been erected on the structure enshrining the life size image of the BodhiSattva Avalokiteshvara—to the north-east of the main stupa.

Exploration of the main site this year has brought to light another building apparently of a monastic nature. In structure and age it appears to be identical with monastery B. It has yielded several small statues in stone as well as in metal, some of which are of special interest for the Mahayana Iconography. Two stone images which appear to be quite unique have also been unearthed. At the south side of the main stupa several votive stupas of various designs have been excavated. Attention was also given to the examination of the site No. 2 and the plinth on which the structure stands was traced on all four sides.

Discoveries.

453. Two gold fanams of the Ganga Dynasty of Kalinga, found in the Orissa Feudatory States, were deposited in the Patna Museum. The Collector of Gaya reported the discovery of 18 gold coins in the Aurangabad Subdivision.

Epigraphy.

454. A plaster cast and inked estampages and squeeges of the well-known Kharavela inscription in the Hathigumpha cave at Khandgiri were made by the late Mr. H. Panday, Assistant Superintendent of Archæology, by means of a special Government grant of Rs. 1,200. These are now in the Patna Museum. Impressions were made of the Asoka inscriptions at Dhauli and of the inscriptions on the coping stones of the Bodh Gaya railing in the Indian Museum at Calcutta.

Protected Monuments.

455. The earthen mound at Bangaon in the district of Bhagalpur and Beg Hazam's Mosque in Patna City were declared protected monuments during the year.

Museum.

456. Two thousand, three hundred and forty-two specimens in all were acquired during the year of which 1,084 were of the Archæological and 316 of the numismatical section. Of these 1,623 were presented and the rest purchased. Of the 316 coins added to the Museum Cabinet 22 were of gold, 90 of silver, 88 of bullion, 104 of copper and 12 of brass.

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